THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

CONSISTING OF

ORIGINAL PIECES AND SELECTIONS FROM PERFORMANCES OF MERIT, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

A WORK CALCULATED TO DISSEMINATE USEFUL KNOWLEDGE AMONG ALL RANKS OF PEOPLE AT A SMALL EXPENCE,

BY

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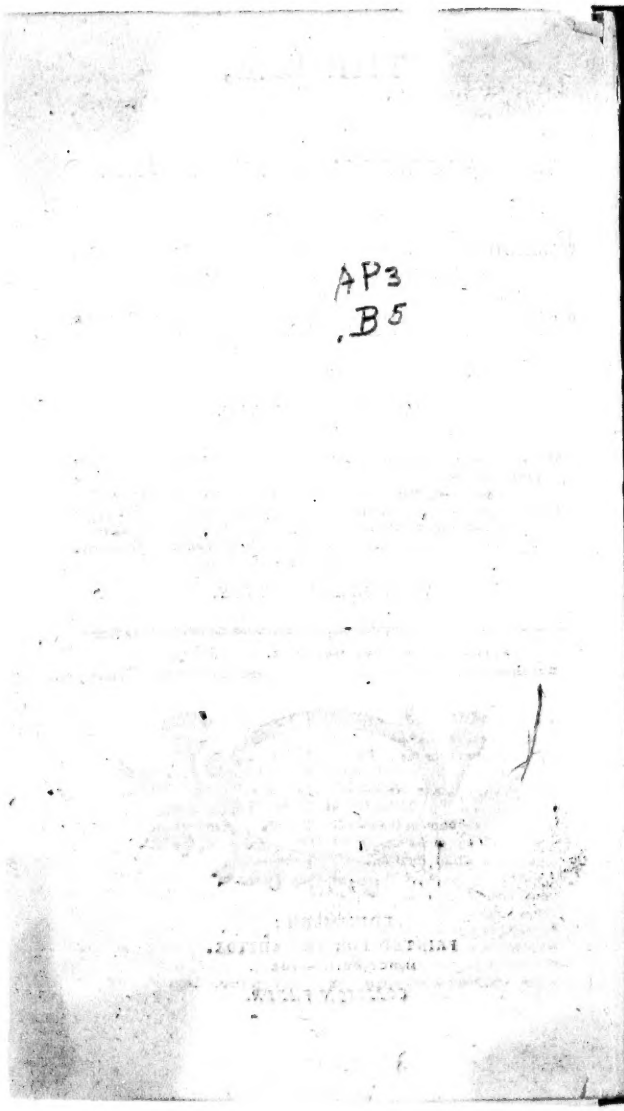
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ENGRAVED FOR THE BEE.

William Tytler Esqr.

VICE-PRESIDT. of the SOCIETY of SCOTTISH ANTIQUARIES and FR.S. EDIN:

Published by J. Anderson Jun.r 2.nd 1793.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2. 1793.

SHORT CHARACTERISTICAL NOTICES OF THE LATE *WILLIAM TYTLER, ESQ. OF WOODHOUSELEE.*

With a portrait.

NATURE bestowed upon William Tytler a kind and beneficent heart; a warm and vivid temper; an upright and affectionate disposition, in which a strong sense of moral rectitude was a prevailing feature: to these were conjoined a decided predilection for poetry, music, and the belles lettres, which he cultivated as the solace of his leisure hours, through every period of his life. These propensities gave a bias to his studies, his actions, and his pursuits, on all occasions; and will serve as a clue to account for every peculiarity that occurred in his progress through life, whether in a public or private capacity.

The *mens sibi conscia recti* produces in many men a harſh and uncomplying severity of manner. The contempt which they feel for meanneſs and vice, serves as an apology to their own minds, for a harſhneſs originating in their natural temper alone. The mind of Mr Tytler, naturally prone to kindneſs, felt no bias of that kind; and being improved by an habitual attachment to objects of taste, which gives a delicacy to the perceptive faculties, and a mildneſs to the finer propensities of the human heart, it never seems to have felt an impreſsion of that unamiable severity in the smallest degree. His temper was ardent, but his dispositions mild; his feelings were quick and strong, but malevolence never found a place in his bosom. During the hasty impreſsions of the moment, he might have appeared to be sometimes unwise; but no person could accuse him of ever having been unjust.

Perhaps the ingenuity of man is never exerted with greater succeſs than in deceiving himself; hence, under the name of virtues, many of the most unamiable dispositions of the mind are cheriſhed with care, while the finest propensities of the heart are stigmatized as failings. A man whose heart is as callous as the stones on which he treads, and all whose thoughts are centered in self alone, ſhall persuade himself into a belief that he is humane, beneficent, and sympathising, because he can talk with pity of the distreſses of those he is not called upon to relieve, and make many pompous speeches in praise of charity and kindneſs; but as soon as the case comes home to himself, his heart contracts, like

the sensitive plant, at the first approach of danger; *prudence* is instantly called to his aid, under the name of *virtue*, which sternly opposes a ſhield to defend him from every attack. Behind this impenetrable ſhield he rests secure, like the tortoise within its ſhell, and utters his moral apophthegms in safety. To this virtue, when thus applied, the object of this memoir laid no claim. When the miseries or the misfortunes of others called for sympathy or aid, his heart was never ſhut against the claims of justice, or the impulses of humanity. The parade of speeches he did, indeed, despise; but he warmly interested himself in the cause of the unfortunate; nor on any occasion forgot to avail himself of every opportunity to serve them. He directed, where he could not otherwise aid; and his sympathising lenity afforded a balm to the wounded heart that no pecuniary gratification could ever have procured.

Nor is it the severe and the selfiſh, alone, whose propensities dignify vices with the name of virtue. There is also a *vicious* sympathy which does infinite mischief in the world. Some persons, by being profusely tender to the object which immediately claims their attention, neglect the infinitely stronger claims of others, who happen to be out of sight at the time. They do not advert that a strict regard to justice and truth is the basis of all virtue. Without it, sympathy becomes weakneſs, and benevolence, itself, a vice. But when a tender disposition is under the steady regulation of this powerful principle, it gives an exaltation to the character, and a mildneſs to the conduct, that becomes irresistibly engaging. Great, in-

deed, must be the foibles that a conduct regulated by this principle, will not effectually cover. In the moral world, its effects may be compared with those of a credit in the mercantile world, that is above the reach of doubt. It gives a man the power of acting, in some measure, as he himself sees right, without ever incurring the imputation of blame. To this temper of mind Mr Tytler was indebted for that great respectability he bore among his acquaintance in public and in private, a degree of respectability, which, without this ingredient, talents of a much more brilliant cast, would never, alone, have insured. What a noble tribute is this which the public voluntarily pays to virtue! If happineſs be the chief pursuit of man, how miserably do those err who hope to attain it, by departing from the fair path of virtue and beneficence!

From the overruling influence of the propensities above explained, resulted a natural ease of manner, and unaffected simplicity of conduct, that could not otherwise have been attained. When the mind is fully engaged in some interesting pursuit, the secret impulses of vanity, implanted in the minds of all mankind, imperceptibly lose their force; and the consideration of self, in some measure, ceases to be the leading motive for conversation. When the objects, especially, it contemplates, are pleasing, the social principle is called into full play; and every vivid emotion excites a desire of participation. This is one of the earliest, and the strongest propensities of the human mind. The child feels a want in every enjoyment, until the nurse be called to partici-

pate in its joy; and every mind that partakes of the innocence of childhood, feels that this is a never-failing ingredient in every enjoyment. But when envy, jealousy, pride, or the overruling influence of selfish passions that dare not be openly avowed, come to predominate, it becomes necessary to assume an artificial disguise, in order to conceal the natural depravity. Conversation then becomes a study.—The lips are taught to speak a language that the heart never dictated; and an overstrained complaisance is the necessary result. Mr Tytler experienced none of these restraints. When he felt an emotion that he thought would give pleasure to others, he frankly communicated it, without disguise. When he felt no emotions of that sort, he thought not of conversing, and naturally bestowed attention to what fell from others, in the hope of obtaining information and pleasure in his turn. The social converse of select friends, was, therefore, to him at all times a source of high enjoyment, and what he coveted above all others.

The same kind of impulse that prompted Mr Tytler to converse with vivacity, induced him to become an author. Never could the observation of Rousseau, "that most authors write merely from a desire to gratify their own vanity," apply with less propriety than to him. He, who was at all times interested in the cause of the friendless, and zealous in defence of truth, naturally became keen in his researches concerning the unfortunate Mary of Scotland. The result of these inquiries was a discovery of circumstances, that, to all the world, appear-

ed undoubted evidence that ſhe had ſuffered great injuſtice, and which convinced himſelf that the opprobrium with which her memory had been ſo long loaded, owed its origin ſolely to forgeries and frauds of the moſt attrocious kind. To be ſilent in ſuch a cauſe, he would have believed implied a participation in the guilt; he therefore ſtepped forward as the willing champion of what he deemed ſuffering innocence, againſt an hoſt of foes; who at that time wore a much more formidable aſpect than they do at preſent. His vindication of Mary* firſt appeared in the year 1759; and forms an æra in the literary hiſtory of Britain. Before that time, it was the faſhion for literary diſputants to attack each other like miſcreants and banditti. The *perſon* was never ſeparated from the *cauſe:* and whatever attached the *one*, was conſidered as equally affecting the *other;* ſo that ſcurrility and abuſe bloated even the pages of a *Bentley* and a *Ruddiman*. The *hiſtorical inquiry* was free from every thing of that ſort: and though the higheſt name produced not a mitigation of the force of any argument, the meaneſt never ſuffered the ſmalleſt abuſe. He conſidered it as being greatly beneath the dignity of a man contending for truth, to overſtretch even an argument in the ſmalleſt degree, far more to pervert a fact to anſwer his purpoſe on any occaſion. In the courſe of his argument he had too often occaſion to ſhow that

* Entitled, "An inquiry, hiſtorical and critical, into the evidence againſt Mary queen of Scots, and an examination of the hiſtories of Dr Robertſon and Mr Hume, with reſpect to that evidence" 8vo 1759. After running through ſeveral editions it was printed in 4to 1790, and in 8vo, two volumes, with large additions.

this had been done by others; but he disdained to imitate them. His reasoning was forcible and elegant; impartially severe, but always polite, and becoming the gentleman and the scholar. When this book appeared, it was looked on as a phenomenon in the literary world; and was read with the greatest avidity. His arguments did not indeed produce universal conviction; but his work commanded universal applause. In the cause of injured innocence, he neither thought it neceſsary to brandiſh the club of defiance, like the ireful Whitaker; nor to have recourse to the secret stiletto, like the artful Gibbon. His object was not to attack, but to defend. He never deserted his post to pursue a fallen opponent; but he ſhrunk not from the most renowned aſsailants; and his succeſs has been such as to induce many others, since that time, to range under his banners; all of whom have imitated his example, in as far as their respective talents and dispositions would permit. As a supplement to this work, he read in the Society of Antiquaries in Scotland, of which society he was a warm friend and protector, and for many years vice president, "A diſsertation on the marriage of queen Mary to the earl of Bothwel," which forms a distinguiſhed article in the first volume of the transactions of that society, publiſhed in the year 1791 in 4to.

All his other writings related to his favourite subject, *belles lettres*. These his miscellaneous works consist of,

1*st*, "The poetical remains of James I. of Scotland, consisting of *The king's quair* in six cantos, and

Christ's kirk of the green, to which is prefixed a diſsertation on the life and writings of king James, Edinburgh 1783." This diſsertation forms a valuable morsel of the literary history of Europe: for James ranked still higher in the literary world as a *poet*, than in the political world as a *prince**. Great justice is done to his memory in both respects in this diſsertation: and the two morsels of poetry here rescued from oblivion, will be esteemed by men of taste, as long as the language in which they are written can be understood.

2*d*, "A diſsertation on Scottiſh music," first subjoined to Arnot's history of Edinburgh. The simple melodies of Scotland have been long the delight of the natives, many of which, to them, convey an idea of pathos, that can be equalled by none other; and are much admired by every stranger of musical talents who has visited this country. They have a powerful effect indeed, when properly introduced, as a relief, into a musical composition of complicated harmony. These are of two kinds, pathetic and humourous. Those who wiſh to receive information concerning this curious subject, will derive much satisfaction from the perusal of this diſsertation. There is yet another kind of music peculiar to the Highlands of Scotland, of a more wild, irregular, and animating strain, which is but slightly treated here; and requires to be still more fully elucidated.

3*d*, "Observations on the *Vision*, a poem," first publiſhed in Ramsay's Evergreen, now also printed

* There is a beautiful historical picture of this prince playing on the harp, with his queen and a circle of his courtiers listening to the music, by Graham, in London, one of the most eminent artists of the age.

in the Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. This may be considered as a part of the literary history of Scotland.

4*th*, "On the fashionable amusements in Edinburgh during the last century;" *ibid.* It is unnecessary to dwell on the light that such dissertations as these, when judiciously executed, throw upon the history of civil society and the progress of manners.

The above are all the publications that are known to have been written by Mr Tytler; nor have I heard if he has left any in MSS. behind him: but if he has, they have fallen into good hands; and his son, I doubt not, will take care that nothing of that sort, which ought to be made public, shall be lost to the world.

Mr Tytler was the son of Mr Alexander Tytler, writer in Edinburgh, and was born there A. D. 1711. He received the first rudiments of his education at the high school, and completed his studies at the university of that city. In the year 1742 he was entered one of the clerks of his majesty's signet in Scotland; a respectable and opulent society of men; and in 1785 appointed treasurer to the funds belonging to that society; a trust which he discharged with great approbation till his death, which happened on the 12th day of September 1792.

He married Anne Craig, daughter of Mr James Craig, writer to the signet, by whom he has left two sons, the eldest Alexander Frazer Tytler, esq. advocate, and professor of civil history in the university of

Edinburgh, and the youngest Captain Patrick Tytler of the 57th regiment of foot.

In his person, Mr Tytler was rather thin than corpulent; his stature about the middle size, or a little below it. Before the writer of this article knew him, when he was in the decline of life, he had been seized with a slight paralytic affection, which rendered his walk, and other motions, less firm; but it had never made the smallest impression on his intellects and mental faculties, which continued uncommonly keen and active till his dying day. In his speech he had a small impediment,—extremely different from a stutter. It was a slight kind of stop, which, when connected with the animation of his manner, seemed to proceed from an excess of eagerness, which, to his friends, gave rather an energy and emphasis to his utterance than any uneasy sensation. The expression of the countenance depends so much on the idea that has been formed of the person in other respects, that those of one's acquaintance are, of all others, the least fit to judge of it. But his was deemed by them universally pleasing and energetic. The public will be able to judge of this from a very fine portrait of him, painted by Mr Raeburn, which is justly reckoned one of the best of his very excellent paintings. A good mezzetinto has been made from it by Jones, engraver to the prince of Wales. Both that, and the print executed by Scott for this work, by the obliging permission of Mr Tytler, are very striking likenesses. If the painting has any fault, it is that the figure is rather fuller than the life.

Mr Tytler had not only the happineſs to enjoy his mental faculties unimpaired, in the usual sense of that word, to a good old age; but he had the singular felicity of preserving to a very late period of life, that ardent glow of enthusiasm, which is in some measure peculiar to youthful minds. The writer of this article was present in the Royal Society of Edinburgh on the 10th day of April 1784, when Dr Carlisle read Collins' ode on the genius of the Highlands, at which time he could not help contemplating, with a pleasing astoniſhment, the enthusiastic ardour that animated the whole frame of Mr Tytler at the recital. He afforded also an example of another peculiarity that is seldom seen,—a man of acknowledged genius and distinguiſhed talents, who had not an enemy or detractor; for it is believed there is not a man in Edinburgh who ever heard a living creature who would venture to detract from, or speak ill of William Tytler.

MEMOIRS OF COUNT LA LIPPE.

[TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF DR ZIMMERMAN.]

For the Bee.

WHO that thinks for himself does not wiſh, on many occasions, that a very considerable part of the world ſhould think rather unfavourably than favourably of him? It were a real misfortune to a man *who can employ his time to advantage in retirement*, if he were universally courted; and of course if every one invited him to his house, and the first

question in every company were, Is not such a man to be of the party? But, in general, such are not the persons who are most beloved, and meet with most attention. On the other hand, he is never a man of very ordinary parts whom a whole town joins in condemning: there must be something great and striking in a character against whom all mouths are open;—at whom every one has a stone ready to throw; on whom curses and destruction are poured out in every company; who is accused of an hundred crimes, none of which, even his most inquisitive and scrutinizing enemy can prove. The lot of every independent thinker is to be envied in escaping the notice of the multitude. He is then allowed at least to enjoy retirement; and though it naturally occurs to him that his character is never understood, yet he is not disappointed when the most erroneous and superficial judgements are formed of it; and when the unwearied endeavours of his friends, in order to correct them, prove unsuccefsful.

Such was the case with the great count of Schaumburg Lippe, or, as he is commonly called, the count of Buckeburg. A character, more generally ridiculed and misunderstood, I never knew in Germany; and yet his name deserves to be ranked in the first clafs of German worthies. I became acquainted with him at a time when he lived almost constantly alone, and secluded himself from the world; but governed his little territory with great wisdom. His appearance at first had something in it disagreeable; and on that account his real character met with great injustice. The count de Lacy,

formerly ambaſsador from the court of Spain at Peterſburgh, told me in Hanover, that he served as general in the Spaniſh army against the Portuguese, commanded by the count of Buckeburg*. The Spaniſh generals were so much struck with the external appearance of the count, when they first saw him on reconnoitring parties, by means of their glaſses, that they all exclaimed, Have the Portuguese got Don Quixote for their general? Count de Lacy, however, (himself a man of great abilities,) spoke with rapture of the whole conduct of the count of Buckeburg in Portugal; of the greatneſs of his mind, and of his character. It is true, he had at a distance a very striking appearance, arising from a certain romantic deportment; his loose hair; his exceſsively tall meagre figure; and particularly from his long oval head, which very naturally suggested the idea of the knight of la Mancha. But when he came nearer, he impreſsed one with very different sentiments. Magnanimity, acuteneſs, refinement, generosity, good nature, and serenity, were written in the most legible characters in every feature of his countenance. I never saw and conversed with the count, without a secret inclination to exclaim, How mild and elevated a character! Heroic sentiments, and great thoughts, flowed from his lips with

* Many of our readers will recollect, that the count la Lippe commanded the Portuguese forces, during the war before last, when Spain, in conjunction with France, overran a great part of that kingdom, because ſhe was allied with Britain. On which occasion the Britiſh light horse so peculiarly diſtinguiſhed themselves in Portugal; and, with the masterly conduct of la Lippe, and the Britiſh officers, effectually secured the independence of Portugal at that time. *Edit.*

all the ease and profusion with which they ever came from the mouths of the most distinguished characters of Greece or Rome. He was, to be sure, outrè. He was born in London. I was told by a very accomplished reigning count in Germany, a relation of count William's, what perhaps is not generally known, that, in his youth, he was a rival to every Englishman he met. He betted, for example, that he would ride backward from London to Edinburgh; that is, with his horse's head directed towards Edinburgh, and his own face towards London. In this mannner he rode through several counties in England. He not only travelled on foot through England, but, as a *beggar*, in company with another German prince. He was told that the current of the Danube, below Ratisbon, was so rapid, that nobody had been able to swim across it; he swam so far, that he was saved with difficulty. One of the wisest politicians and best philosophers in Hanover*, told me, that, in the war, when he commanded the artillery under prince Ferdinand against the French, he invited several Hanoverian officers to dine with him one day in his tent. While the company were indulging themselves in mirth and good humour, several cannon balls flew over the tent. The officers said that the French certainly were in the neighbourhood.—No; replied the count, the French are not near us; you may safely finish your

* My late bosom friend, the privy counsellor, Strube, private secretary to the ministry in Hanover during the war from 1756, and till his death in 1777.

dinner.—Soon after a pair of balls went through the top of the tent; upon which the officers rose, and maintained that the French were certainly there.—No, said the count; the French are not there; keep your seats, and take my word for it. Ball came after ball; the officers ate and drank quietly, and whispered to one another their observations on this extraordinary entertainment. At last the count rose, and said, gentlemen, I wanted only to shew you how much I can depend upon my artillerists; for they had orders, as long as we should sit at table, to fire with loaded cannon at the ornaments on the top of the tent, and they have done it with the greatest exactness. The attentive reader will readily discover, in these extraordinary traits, the character of a man who wanted to exercise both himself and others in every thing that had the appearance of difficulty.—I stood one day with the count by a powder magazine which he had built under his bed-chamber in the fortress of Wilhelmstein. I said, that I should not sleep soundly there in a sultry summer night. The count told me, I had forgotten that the extreme of danger, and no danger at all, were the same thing.—The first time I saw this extraordinary man, he entertained me in the presence of an English and Portuguese officer, full two hours, on the subject of Haller's great work on physiology; which he had got by heart. Next morning he insisted on my going with him in a wherry to his fortress of Wilhelmstein, which he had built, according to a plan which he shewed me, in the middle of the Steinhuder sea, with-

out having an inch of ground to found it on. He himself was at the helm.

In the great alley at Pyrmont he entertained me one Sunday in the midst of some thousand persons, who walked, and danced, and gossipped, full two hours on one spot, with an account of all the evidences which had been adduced for the existence of a god, of the defects in these evidences, and in what manner, in his opinion, they might be better stated; and all this, with as much composure as if we had been the only persons in the world. And that I might not give him the slip in the midst of this lecture, he held me fast, for two hours uninterruptedly, by the button of my coat.

He shewed me in his palace at Buckeburg, a large folio MSS. written with his own hand, on the art of defending a small state against the attacks of a powerful one. This work was intended for the king of Portugal, and complete*. He read to me many passages from it relating to the defence of Switzerland. The count considered Switzerland as invincible. He mentioned to me not only all the important posts which must be occupied against every enemy, but also every path by which a cat could

* He printed an extract from this work in the year 1775, in Buckeburg, under the title, *Memoires pour l'art militaire defensif*, in six small volumes. But the whole impression consisted, alas! of only ten copies; all which were lately in a locked chest in the library of the present count in Buckeburg. Two volumes, however, I have heard, have been rescued by some person unknown, and translated. But it is said, that the plan of the copies still lying in the chest in Buckeburg, both bound and unbound, have been cut out and taken away; and thus the work may be said to be thereby annihilated.

scarcely enter. I believe a more important work for my country has not been written than this; for to all the objections which the Swiſs had been able to make to him, he ſhowed me convincing answers in this MS. My friend Meses Mendelsohn, to whom the count had read the introduction to this work in Pyrmont, considered it as a *chef d'oeuvre* of philosophy and stile. The count wrote French, when he pleased, almost as well as Voltaire; but his German was artificial, diffuse, and wanted perspicuity. It does him much honour, that after his return from Portugal, two of the greatest geniuses in Germany lived many years constantly with him; first *Abbt*, and afterwards *Herder*. Those who knew him longer and more intimately, and marked his character with a more penetrating eye than I did, might tell a thousand more important things of this truly great and singular man. I ſhall only add, partly in the words of Shakespeare, count William of Schaumburg Lippe "wore no man's chains." He was much avoided; he read much; he was a great observer; he looked quite through the deeds of men; he loved no plays; seldom he smiled, and smiled in such a sort, as if he laughed at others.

Such were the outlines of this solitary character, which has been so grofsly misunderstood. Such a man may well smile, when he sees persons who venture to laugh at him. But with what ſhame and confusion must their silence be accompanied, when they look at the monument, which the great Mendelsohn has erected to his memory? or when they read the history of the principal occurrences in his

life *, which a young, but masterly hand, in Hanover, with quick sensibility, historical addreſs, elevated stile, and with equal truth and candour, has submitted to the judgement of impartial posterity?

Whoever has the fortune to be ridiculed and laughed at, as I have heard the count of Schaumburg Lippe a thousand times, on account of his long face, his flying hair, his great hat, and his small sword, but who is at the same time heroic and great like him, may well be allowed sometimes the privilege of smiling. The count of Buckeburg, however, never laughed at the world but with good nature. With a breast devoid of malice and hatred, he spent his time in the retirement of a country seat in the midst of a wood, often quite alone, or with the fair one whom he had chosen for his wife; by whom he did not appear to me to be beloved; but for whom, after ſhe was dead, he died of love.

EIN LIEBHABER.

AN USEFUL HINT.

THE difference between rising every morning at 6 and at 8, in the course of forty years, supposing a man to go to bed at the same time he otherwise would, amounts to 29,000 hours; or three years, 121 days, and sixteen hours; which will afford eight hours a day for exactly ten years; so that is the same as if ten years of life, a weighty consideration, were added, in which we could command eight hours every day for the cultivation of our minds, or the dispatch of buſineſs.

* Memoirs of count William of Schaumburg Lippe; by Theodore Ilmalz, Hanover, 1783.

ORIGINAL ANECDOTES OF PETER THE GREAT, COMMUNICATED BY ARCTICUS.

Characteristical anecdotes of great men, are among the most interesting species of literary amusements to the speculative philosopher as they strip mankind of all their extraneous trappings, and display the mind in its pure and unadorned simplicity. The king and the beggar are thus upon a footing, and we often see that those splendid beings whose nod makes the world tremble, when thus anatomized, consist of "such stuff as fools are made of," and though the greatest men bow down before them in public with admiration, they become in private the jest of servants, and the tool of knaves. But when we have thus an opportunity of seeing men, who, though exposed to all the temptations which uncontroulable power so naturally produce, continue still to be actuated by a spirit of beneficence on all occasions, it ought to raise them in our estimation in a very high degree. The anecdotes communicated by my respectable correspondent, of Peter the Great, and the amiable Catharine, serve to give a pleasing view of the talents, and dispositions of that monarch, even in his most unguarded moments, and though they often exhibit him in a laughable point of view, and give an idea of the mode of conducting his operations, and carrying on business in an absolute court, extremely different from what we might otherwise expect, yet they serve to make us esteem the man, perhaps yet more than we admire the monarch.

By the very obliging attention of my kind correspondent, I shall be able to lay before my readers from time to time, several very characteristic anecdotes of this great man, and his most distinguished courtiers, some of them laughable enough.

Anecdote first, by general Betskoy.

PETER the Great was one day questioning some of his ministers, returned from their missions at foreign courts, relative to the progress of the young gentlemen he had sent abroad for education, to the different countries of Europe, and seemed highly pleased with the favourable accounts given of them,

when the converſation was ſuddenly interrupted by *de Coſta*, one of Peter's jeſters, vociferating from a corner of the room, *Peter you are a fool.* This abrupt and ſingular ſalutation drew the emperor's attention, who declared, that if de Coſta could not make good his aſſertion, he ſhould be toſſed in a blanket immediately, and called on him therefore to begin. The jeſter, by no means diſconcerted, advanced gravely to the middle of the room, where there always ſtood a round table, covered with red cloth, containing implements for writing; and taking a ſheet of fine paper, doubled it, and after drawing the ivory cutter hard over the ply, bid Peter try to take it out.

The emperor, with much good humour, ſet about the taſk aſſigned him by his jeſter; but after working ſome time, was obliged to confeſs himſelf unable to effect it; then, ſays de Coſta, I hope you now avow yourſelf the fool, and not me; ſo let us change places, for I muſt be emperor in my turn. However, Peter declared that he ſtill did neither underſtand his claim, nor allegory; and he muſt explain, or cut capers in the air. Then, ſays de Coſta, the moral and meaning of my folded paper is this: You ſend young men abroad at the age of fifteen or ſixteen, to acquire foreign inſtruction and manners, to civilize your empire; but they have already taken a ply at home, like my paper, which can never be taken out; ſo that if you wiſh, O! Czar, to do the work effectually, ſend children abroad for inſtruction, who are ſtill without impreſſion of any kind, and they will facilitate thy labours.

General Betſkoy, though then very young, was ſo ſtruck with the juſtneſs of the diſguiſed ſatirist's reproof, (to which he was witneſs, as being ordinance on duty at the time,) that he never forgot it; and when Catharine II. gave him the commiſsion to found the eſtabliſhment for the education of the female nobility, called *le Couvent des Demoiselles Nobles*, the *Academy of Arts*, and to make a new plan for *the Imperial Corps of Land Cadets*, founded by the famous count Munich, he took care to insert, as fundamental principles,

First, That children ſhould be received into all thoſe ſeminaries at from five to six years of age.

Secondly, That they ſhould be educated entirely by foreigners, with little or no intercourse with the Ruſsians, even their relations, except on public days, merely to ſhow their moral and physical improvement.

And *lastly*, that they ſhould not be let out of the ſeminaries, till an age when the allegoric ply of Peter's jeſter had been ſo ſtrongly given by foreigners, that no future intermixture with the natives, nor force of example, could take it out.

*** This anecdote was communicated to Arcticus by general Betſkoy himſelf, the oldest nobleman in St Peterſburgh.

Another of the same, by the same.

THE emperor came home one day much irritated against his favourite prince Menchikoff, from a complaint of the chancellor Shafirow, relative to a large

ſum of money which the prince had refuſed to account for to the ſenate, in defiance of the edict for that purpoſe. Catharine knowing her huſband's ſeverity on a ſuppoſed breach of truſt, was alarmed for her ancient benefactor, ſhould he fall in Peter's way, before he had an opportunity of explaining the cauſe of ſuch an action, and of ſo haughty a behaviour to the ſenate which he deſired ſo much to be reſpected. This conſideration engaged the amiable lady to encourage a ſcheme of Balachereff, Peter's Ruſſian jeſter, calculated to put the emperor in good humour, which was to practiſe on the occaſion one of thoſe ridiculous but humorous ſcenes which occaſionally made him laugh; and by that means to procure for the prince a cooller interview, to explain ſo delicate a ſubject, on which the emperor was terrible to his deareſt friends.

The jeſter, then, according to agreement, bolted into the room in which the emperor was ſitting waiting for Menchikoff, in one of thoſe fits of anger to which he was known to be occaſionally ſubject; and called for juſtice on the prince for ſome ſuppoſed affront loading his fictitious adverſary with every epithet he could invent, and finiſhed by demanding his head in a wooden bowl he had brought to receive it; but added, that if the emperor would not do him juſtice, he was reſolved to take it himſelf whenever he met the prince.

The end of this clamourous harangue, was the preconcerted ſignal for the prince to enter, as if by accident, which he had no ſooner attempted than the fool flew at him like a fury, and fairly drove him

out again, leaving his large wig, the dreſs of that day, in the jester's hand.

Peter finding his buffoon had been too frolicsome, rose to give him a little chastisement with his dubeen, which made him fly for refuge into Catharine's apartments, where ſhe was sitting working with her maids, in the primitive stile of former times. The emperor after having searched for him in every corner of his wife's apartment, at last spied his head peeping out above a monstrous hoop, such as the ladies then wore, which was hung (probably on purpose,) on the wall, so near the floor as to offer a convenient hiding place. At that very moment the prince arrived in a rage in quest of his wig, which he found on the head of the jester in the hoop, who made so ridiculous and comic a figure altogether, in his new dreſs, that the whole company burst into a fit of laughter, and gave time to the fool to make his escape, thus metamorphosed into a species of hermaphrodite monster.

The point was then gained; for Menchikoff got an opportunity of explaining the cause of his apparent insult and breach of trust, whilst the emperor was in good humour, and still laughing at the figure of his bald headed minister, talking gravely of state affairs without his wig. The commodore added, that the prince easily convinced his master of the impropriety of answering questions, in open senate, on the employment of secret service money, and delivered him a note of it, which ended the matter.

My only reason for giving this, and some other ridiculous and comic anecdotes of the Ruſsian legis-

lator, is to ſhow the manners of the times, and the use that was occaſionally made by courtiers, of the humoriſts, ſtiled a jeſter or fool, which was then ſo neceſſary to the amuſement and ſtate of great men, before the diffuſion of letters and cards had furniſhed other modes of paſſing hours of relaxation from buſineſs.

That appendage to a great man remained ſome time in Ruſsia after it had been diſcarded from the more enlightened nations; but ſtill the frolics, witticiſms, and tricks of the royal Engliſh jeſters, are upon record; even thoſe of the lord mayor of London's fool, have been repeated many years ago to

ARCTICUS.

THOUGHTS ON FEMALE STUDIES.

> Ingenuas didiceſſe fideliter artes,
> Emollet mores, nec ſinet eſſe feros. OVID.

ONE of my predeceſſors, in his immortal eſſays, has entertained the reader with letters from his correſpondents on the ſubject of female education, particularly what relates to the choice of books proper for their ſtudies. I in my turn have lately received letters on the ſame topic; and it is amuſing to obſerve the tincture which they take from the education, profeſſion, or ſome peculiar characteriſtic of the writer. An epiſtle, dated from Dunbar, and ſubſcribed by a perſon who ſtiles himſelf a Diſintereſted Friend to the fair ſex, recommends a treatiſe on the practice of ſea bathing, and drinking of

salt water. A lady who appears to be a boarding mistreſs, and of a ſentimental turn of mind, is of opinion, that young ladies ought to read ſuch novels only, as are calculated to promote the love of virtue, and extols in very high terms, *The Sorrows of Werter*, and *The Tears of Senſibility*; and ſome other performances written in the ſame ſtile, which ſhe is perſuaded would effectually baniſh all that mirth and levity, ſo unſeaſonable and unbecoming, more eſpecially in young creatures. One letter ſuggeſts the expediency of acquiring ſome ſkill in cookery; another thinks that every virtue in women is confined to frugality and knowledge of houſe keeping; religion, or rather the various branches and modes of it, has many advocates: I cannot avoid taking particular notice of one who aſſumes the ſignature of *Calvin junior*; and who, after reprobating with great vehemence and acrimony, the prevailing want of charity and humility in womankind, recommends, with great confidence and exultation, a work on *the ſmall number that ſhall be ſaved*.

I intend to take ſome future opportunity of animadverting on the various propoſals of my correſpondents; and in the meantime the remaining part of the preſent paper ſhall be employed in ſome ſerious reflections on the ſubject, which I acknowledge I have always conſidered as important and intereſting.

The ridicule which has on ſo many occaſions been thrown ſometimes by wit, but more frequently by petulance and dulneſs, on *learned ladies*, has done great miſchief, and been more the occaſion, than any thing I know, of preventing women from

bestowing some application on studies of an intsructive and rational nature; such studies as, without doubt, they have as much capacity to comprehend, and as much discernment to reliſh, as the other sex. The truth is, we need be under no apprehensions, that, by devoting a part of their time to these objects, their beauty, or the softer endowments of the mind, will suffer or be impaired; on the contrary, a disposition for literature, when properly directed, and cultivated with taste and feeling, will render beauty more animated and interesting, and every external grace more powerful and attractive.

I would, on no account, advise my fair readers to apply to the study of the abstruse sciences, or to meddle with theological controversy, as such speculations are by no means natural or suited to the character or delicacy of the sex; besides, metaphysical refinement, and abstracted arguments, are more apt to confound than enlighten the understanding.

Of novels, notice has already been taken in the course of these papers; and I am afraid it would not be easy to say any thing new on such an hackneyed subject. Those of them that are poſseſsed of real merit, have met with just and universal applause, and are so well known, that it is altogether unneceſsary to mention even their names; but, in general, I consider it as an unprofitable species of reading; and though I do not think, with some moralists, that even the common run of novels are hurtful to virtue, yet I may venture to affirm, that they are unfavourable to good taste. Indeed I have met with few of them where the composition is

either pathetic or sublime, or where the subject is so managed as to melt the heart, or elevate the imagination; and it is but seldom that they convey to the reader, a just or genuine representation of the character, circumstances, or situation, of real life.

To what objects, then, to what pursuits ſhall a woman bend her attention in those hours that are not devoted to domestic, or still more serious occupations? I answer to the study of the easy and more acceſsible parts of philosophy; to history, biography, poetry, and the other branches of polite literature, where instruction is blended with amusement, and erudition with wit. These are subjects that have a natural tendency to promote the happineſs of human nature, or contribute to the improvement of the heart, and the enlargement of the mind. Other exercises (to conclude this paper with the reflection of an eloquent and enlightened philosopher,) "Other exercises depend on the circumstances of time, age, or place; but these studies give nurture in youth, and amusement in old age. In adversity they ſhelter and support. Delightful at home, and easy abroad, they ſoften ſlumber, they ſhorten fatigue, and enliven retirement. Though I, myself, never had felt their efficacy, nor tasted their excellence, yet must they be the object of my adoration when I see them beam from others."

The Editor is obliged to an able aſsistant for the foregoing communication, for which he returns his best thanks, and hopes for a continuation of his favours.

ODE ON THE POPULAR SUPERSTITION OF THE HIGHLANDS.

[ADDRESSED TO MR HUME BY COLLINS, REFERRED TO IN P. liii.]

H——, thou return'st from Thames, whose Naïads long
Have seen thee ling'ring, with a fond delay,
'Mid those soft friends, whose hearts, some future day,
Shall melt, perhaps, to hear thy tragic song.
Go, not unmindful of that cordial youth,
Whom, long endear'd, thou leav'st by Lavant's side;
Together let us wish him lasting truth,
And joy untainted with his destin'd bride.
Go! nor, regardless, while these numbers boast
My short-liv'd bliss, forget my social name;
But think, far off, how, on the southern coast,
I met thy friendship with an equal flame!
Fresh to that soil thou turn'st, whose ev'ry vale
Shall prompt the poet, and his song demand:
To thee thy copious subjects ne'er shall fail;
Thou need'st but take the pencil to thy hand,
And paint what all believe who own thy genial land.

II.

There must thou wake perforce thy Doric quill,
'Tis Fancy's land to which thou sett'st thy feet;
Where still, 'tis said, the fairy people meet
Beneath each birken shade on mead or hill.
There each trim lass that skims the milky store,
To the swart tribes their creamy bowl allots;
By night they sip it round the cottage door,
While airy minstrels warble jocund notes.
There ev'ry herd by sad experience knows,
How, wing'd with fate, their elf-shot arrows fly;
When the sick ewe her summer food forgoes,
Or, stretch'd on earth, the heart-smit heifers lie.
Such airy beings awe th' untutor'd swain:
Nor thou, tho' learn'd, his homelier thoughts neglect;
Let thy sweet muse the rural faith sustain:
These are the themes of simple sure effect,
That add new conquests to her boundless reign,
And fill with double force her heart-commanding strain.

III.

Ev'n yet preserv'd, how often may'st thou hear,
Where to the pole the Boreal mountains run,
Taught by the father to his list'ning son,
Strange lays, whose pow'r had charm'd a Spencer's ear.
At ev'ry pause, before thy mind possest,
Old Runic bards shall seem to rise around,
With uncouth lyres, in many-colour'd vest,
Their matted hair with boughs fantastic crown'd:

Whether thou bid'st the well-taught hind repeat
The choral dirge that mourns some chieftain brave,
When ev'ry ſhrieking maid her boſom bear,
And ſtrew'd with choiceſt herbs his ſcented grave;
Or whether, ſitting in the ſhepherd's ſhiel,
Thou hear'st ſome ſounding tale of war's alarms;
When, at the bugle's call, with fire and ſteel,
The ſturdy clans pour'd forth their bony ſwarms,
And hoſtile brothers met to prove each other's arms.

IV.

'Tis thine to ſing, how, framing hideous ſpells,
In Sky's lone iſle the gifted wizzard "ſits,
"Waiting in" wintry cave "his wayward fits;"
Or in the depth of Uiſt's dark foreſts dwells:
How they, whoſe ſight ſuch dreary dreams engroſs,
With their own viſions oft aſtoniſh'd droop,
When o'er the wat'ry ſtrath or quaggy moſs
They ſee the gliding ghoſts embodied troop.
Or if in ſports, or on the feaſtive green,
Their "piercing" glance ſome fated youth deſcry,
Who, now perhaps in luſty vigour ſeen
And roſy health, ſhall ſoon lamented die.
For them the viewleſs forms of air obey
Their bidding heed, and at their beck repair,
They know what ſpirit brews the ſtormful day,
And heartleſs oft like moody madneſs ſtare,
To ſee the phantom train their ſecret work prepare.

V.

* "Or on ſome billying rock that ſhades the deep,
"They view the lurid ſigns that croſs the ſky,
"Where, in the weſt, the brooding tempeſts lie,
"And hear their firſt faint ruſtling pennons ſweep.
"Or in the arched cave, where, deep and dark,
"The broad unbroken billows heave and ſwell,
"In horrid muſings rapt they ſit to mark
"The lab'ring moon; or liſt the nightly yell
Of that dread ſpirit, whoſe gigantic form
"The ſeer's entranced eye can well ſurvey,
"Thro' the dim air who guides the driving ſtorm,
"And points the wretched bark its deſtin'd prey.
"Or him who hovers, on his flagging wing,
"O'er the dire whirlpool, that, in ocean's waſte,
"Draws inſtant down whate'er devoted thing
"The failing breeze within its reach hath plac'd.—
"The diſtant ſeaman hears, and flies with trembling haſte.

VI.

"Or if on land the fiend exerts his ſway,
"Silent he broods o'er quickſand, bog, or fen,
"Far from the ſhelt'ring roof and haunts of men,
"When witched darkneſs ſhuts the eye of day,

* A leaf of the manuſcript containing the fifth ſtanza, and one half of the ſixth, is here loſt. The chaſm is ſupplied by Mr Mackenzie.

" And shrouds each star that wont to chear the night;
" Or if the drifted snow perplex the way,
" With treach'rous gleam he lures the fated wight,
" And leads him flound'ring on, and quite astray."
What though, far off, from some dark dell espied,
His glimm'ring mazes chear th' excursive sight,
Yet turn, ye wand'rers, turn your steps aside,
Nor trust the guidance of that faithless light;
For watchful, lurking 'mid th' unsettling reed,
At those mirk hours the wily monster lies,
And listens oft to hear the pafting steed,
And frequent round him rolls his sullen eyes,
If chance his savage wrath may some weak wretch surprise.

VII.

Ah, luckless swain, o'er all unblest indeed!
Whom late bewilder'd in the dank dark fen,
Far from his flocks and smoking hamlet then!
To that sad spot " his wayward fate shall lead:"
On him enrag'd, the fiend, in angry mood,
Shall never look with pity's kind concern,
But instant, furious, raise the whelming flood
O'er its drown'd bank, forbidding all return.
Or, if he meditate his wish'd escape
To some dim hill that seems uprising near,
To his faint eye the grim and grisly shape,
In all its terrors clad shall wild appear.
Meantime the wat'ry surge shall round him rise,
Pour'd sudden forth from ev'ry swelling source.
What now remains but tears and hopeless sighs?
His fear-shook limbs have lost their youthly force,
And down the waves he floats, a pale and breathless corse.

VIII.

For him, in vain, his anxious wife shall wait,
Or wander forth to meet him on his way;
For him, in vain, at to-fall of the day,
His babes shall linger at th' unclosing gate.
Ah, ne'er shall he return! Alone, if night
Her travell'd limbs in broken slumbers steep,
With dropping willows drest, his mournful sprite
Shall visit sad, perchance, her silent sleep:
Then he, perhaps, with moist and wat'ry hand,
Shall fondly seem to press her shudd'ring cheek,
And with his blue swoln face before her stand,
And, shiv'ring cold, these piteous accents speak:
" Pursue, dear wife, thy daily toils pursue,
At dawn or dusk, industrious as before;
Nor e'er of me one hapless thought renew,
While I lie welt'ring on the osier'd shore,
Drown'd by the Kaelpie's wrath, nor e'er shall aid thee more."

IX.

Unbounded is thy range. With varied stile
Thy muse may, like those feath'ry tribes which spring
From their rude rocks, extend her skirting wing
Round the moist marge of each cold Hebrid isle,
To that hoar pile which still its ruin shows;
In whose small vaults a pigmy-folk is found,
Whose bones the delver with his spade upthrows,
And culls them, wond'ring, from the hallow'd ground!
Or thither where beneath the show'ry west
The mighty kings of three fair realms are laid;
Once foes, perhaps, together now they rest.
No slaves revere them, and no wars invade:
Yet frequent now, at midnight's solemn hour,
The rifted mounds their yawning cells unfold,
And forth the monarchs stalk with sov'reign pow'r
In pageant robes, and wreath'd with sheeny gold,
And on their twilight tombs aerial council hold.

X.

But O! o'er all, forget not Kilda's race,
On whose bleak rocks, which brave the wasting tides,
Fair nature's daughter, Virtue yet abides.
Go, just as they, their blameless manners trace!
Then to my ear transmit some gentle song
Of those whose lives are yet sincere and plain,
Their bounded walks the rugged cliffs along,
And all their prospect but the wint'ry main.
With sparing temperance, at the needful time,
They drain the sainted spring; or, hunger-prest,
Along th' Atlantic rock undreading climb,
And of its eggs despoil the Solan's nest.
Thus blest in primal innocence they live,
Suffic'd and happy with that frugal fare
Which tasteful toil and hourly danger give.
Hard is their shallow soil, and bleak and bare;
Nor ever vernal bee was heard to murmur there!

XI.

Nor need'st thou blush, that such false themes engage
Thy gentle mind, of fairer stores possest;
For not alone they touch the village breast,
But fill'd in elder time th' historic page.
There Shakespeare's self, with ev'ry garland crown'd,
In musing hour, his wayward sisters found,
And with their terrors dress'd the magic scene.
From them he sung, when mid his bold design,
Before the Scot afflicted and aghast,
The shadowy kings of Banquo's fated line,
Through the dark cave in gleamy pageant past.
Proceed, nor quit the tales, which, simply told,
Could once so well my answ'ring bosom pierce;
Proceed in forceful sounds and colours bold

The native legends of thy land rehearse;
To such adapt thy lyre, and suit thy powerful verse.

XII.

In scenes like these, which, daring to depart
From sober truth, are still to nature true,
And call forth fresh delight to fancy's view,
Th' heroic muse employed her Tasso's art!
How have I trembled, when, at Tancred's stroke,
Its gushing blood the gaping cypress pour'd;
When each live plant with mortal accents spoke,
And the wild blast up-heav'd the vanish'd sword!
How have I sat, when pip'd the pensive wind,
To hear his harp by British Fairfax strung.
Prevailing poet, whose undoubting mind
Believ'd the magic wonders which he sung!
Hence at each sound imagination glows;
Hence his warm lay with softest sweetness flows;
Melting it flows, pure, num'rous, strong, and clear,
And fills th' impassion'd heart, and wins th' harmonious ear.

XIII.

All hail, ye scenes that o'er my soul prevail,
Ye "spacious" friths and lakes, which, far away,
Are by smooth Annan fill'd or past'ral Tay,
Or Don's romantic springs, at distance, hail!
The time shall come when I, perhaps, may tread
Your lowly glens, o'erhung with spreading broom,
Or o'er your stretching heaths by fancy led:
Then will I dress once more the faded bow'r,
Where Johnson sat in Drummond's social shade,
Or crop from Tiviot's dale each "classic flower,"
And mourn on Yarrow's banks the "widow'd maid."
Meantime, ye pow'rs, that on the plains which bore
The cordial youth, on Lothian's plains, attend,
Where'er he dwell, on hill, or lowly muir,
To him I leave, your kind protection lend,
And, touch'd with love like mine, preserve my absent friend.

VERSES TO THE MEMORY OF COLLINS.

For the Bee.

Sweet bard! to thee was given to know
The soften'd energies that melt the heart,
Th' expansive thought, the panting throb and glow,
That inly thrilling agitates each part.
Thou felt the mix'd emotions of the soul,
And sung their force in high enraptur'd strains;
Full well ye knew they reach'd from pole to pole,
And fill'd the breast of Scotia's hardy swains.
To thee who felt imagination's pow'r
Strike with redoubled force the brain's recess;
Dear were these feelings in the social hour,
And for these themes your memory we bless.

EXPERIMENTS BY T. JEFFERSON ESQ. SECRETARY TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ON THE DISTILLATION OF SALT WATER.

Being a report *by him to the American Congreſs on a claim for a reward for a discovery, alleged to have been made on that subject.*

THE petitioner sets forth, that, by various experiments, with considerable labour and expence, he has discovered a method of converting salt water into freſh, in the proportion of eight pints out of ten, by a proceſs so simple, that it may be performed on board of veſsels at sea by the common iron cabouse, with small alterations, by the same fire, and in the same time, which is used for cooking the ſhip's provisions; and offers to convey to the government of the United States, a faithful account of his art, or secret, to be used by or within the United States, on their giving to him a reward suitable to the importance of the discovery, and, in the opinion of government, adequate to his expences, and the time he has devoted to the bringing it to effect.

In order to ascertain the merit of the petitioner's discovery, it becomes neceſsary to examine the advances already made in the art of converting salt water into freſh.

Lord Bacon, to whom the world is indebted for the first germs of so many branches of science, had observed, that, with a heat sufficient for distillation, salt will not rise in vapour, and that salt water distilled, is freſh. And it would seem that all mankind might have observed, that the earth is supplied with freſh water chiefly by exhalation from the sea, which is in fact an insenſible distillation effected by the heat of the sun. Yet this, though the

most obvious, was not the first idea in the eſsays for converting salt water into freſh. Filtration was tried in vain, and congelations could be resorted to only in the coldest regions and seasons. In all the earlier trials by diſtillation, some mixture was thought neceſsary to aid the operation by a partial precipitation of the salt, and other foreign matters contained in sea water. Of this kind were the methods of Sir Richard Hawkins, in the 16th century, of Glauber, Hauton, and Lister, in the 17th, and of Hales, Appleby, Butler, Chapman, Hoffman, and Dove, in the 18th; nor was there any thing in these methods worth noting on the present occasion, except the very simple still contrived extempore by captain Chapman, and made from such materials as are to be found on board every ſhip, great or small. This was a common pot with a wooden lid of the usual form in the center of which a great hole was bored to receive perpendicularly a ſhort wooden tube, made with an inch and half auger, which perpendicular tube received at its top, and at an acute angle, another tube of wood also, which descended till it joined a third, of pewter, made by rolling up a diſh, and paſsing it obliquely through a cask of cold water. With this simple machine he obtained two quarts of freſh water an hour, and observed, that the expence of fuel would be very trifling, if the still was contrived to stand on the fire along with the ſhip's boiler.

In 1792, Dr Lind proposing to make experiments of several different mixtures, first distilled rain water, which he supposed would be the purest, and then sea water, without any mixture, which he expected would be the least pure, in order to arrange between these two supposed extremes the degree of merit of the several ingredients he meant to try. "To his great surprise," as he confeſses, "the sea water distilled without any mixture was as pure as the rain water." He pursued the discovery,

and established the fact, that a pure and potable fresh water, may be obtained from salt water by simple distillation without the aid of any mixture for fining or precipitating its foreign contents. In 1767, he proposed an extempore still, which, in fact, was Chapman's, only substituting a gun barrel instead of Chapman's pewter tube, and the hand pump of the ship to be cut in two obliquely, and joined again at an acute angle, instead of Chapman's wooden tubes bored express; or instead of the wooden lid and upright tube, he proposed a tea kettle, (without its lid or handle,) to be turned bottom upwards, over the mouth of the pot, by way of still head, and a wooden tube leading from the spout to a gun barrel passing through a cask of water, the whole luted with equal parts of chalk and meal moistened with salt water.

With this apparatus, of a pot, tea kettle, and gun barrel, the Dolphin, a twenty gun ship, in her voyage round the world in 1768, from fifty six gallons of sea water, and with nine pounds of wood, and sixty-nine pounds of pit coal, made forty two gallons of good fresh water at the rate of eight gallons an hour. The Dorsetshire, in her passage from Gibralter to Mahon, in 1769, made nineteen quarts of pure water in four hours with ten pounds of wood. And the Slambal, in 1773, between Bombay and Bengal, with a hand pump, gun barrel, and a pot, of six gallons of sea water made ten quarts of fresh water in three hours.

In 1771, Dr Irvin putting together Lind's idea of distilling without a mixture, Chapman's still, and Dr Franklin's method of cooling by evaporation, obtained a premium of L. 5000 from the British parliament. He wet his tube constantly with a mop instead of passing it through a cask of water: he enlarged its bore also, in order to give a freer passage to the vapour, and thereby increase its quantity by lessening the resistance or pressure on the e-

vaporating surface: this last improvement was his own, and it doubtleſs contributed to the ſucceſs of his models; and we may ſuppoſe the enlargement of the tube to be uſeful to that point at which the central parts of the vapour, paſſing through it, would begin to eſcape condenſation. Lord Mulgrave uſed his method in his voyage towards the north pole, 1773, making from thirty four to forty gallons of freſh water a day, without any great addition of fuel, as he ſays.

M. de Bougainville in his voyage round the world, uſed very ſucceſsfully, a ſtill which had been contrived in 1763, by Poyſonier, ſo as to guard againſt the water being thrown over from the boiler into the pipe, by the agitation of the ſhip. In this, one ſingularity was, that the furnace or fire box was in the middle of the boiler, ſo that the water ſurrounded it in contact. This ſtill, however, was expenſive, and occupied much room.

Such were the advances already made in the art of obtaining freſh from ſalt water, when Mr Iſaacks, the petitioner, ſuggeſted his diſcovery.

As the merit of this could be aſcertained by experiment only, the ſecretary of ſtate aſked the favour of Mr Rittenhouſe, preſident of the American philoſophical ſociety, of Dr Wiſtar, profeſſor of chemiſtry in the college of Philadelphia, and Dr Hutchinſon, profeſſor of chemiſtry in the univerſity of Penſylvania, to be preſent at the experiments. Mr Iſaacks fixed the pot of a ſmall iron cabouſe, with a tin cap, and ſtraight tube of tin, paſſing obliquely through a caſk of cold water; he made uſe of a mixture, the compoſition of which he did not explain, and from twenty-four pints of ſea water, taken up about three miles out of the Capes of Delaware at flood tide, he diſtilled twenty-two pints of freſh water in four hours, with twenty pounds of ſeaſoned pine, which was a little wetted by having lain in the rain.

In a second experiment on the 21st of March, performed in a furnace and five gallon still at the college, from thirty-two pints of sea water he drew thirty-one pints of freſh water in seven hours, twenty-four minutes, with fifty-one pounds of hickory which had been cut about six months. In order to decide whether Mr Isaack's mixture contributed in any, and what degree, to the succeſs of the operation, it was thought proper to repeat his experiment under the same circumstances exactly, except the omiſsion of the mixture. Accordingly, on the next day, the same quantity of sea water was put into the same still, the same furnace was used, and fuel from the same parcel. It yielded, as his had done, thirty-one pints of freſh water in eleven minutes more of time, and with ten pound leſs of wood.

On the 24th of March, Mr Isaacks performed a third experiment. For this, a common iron pot of 3¼ gallons was fixed in brick work, and the flue from the hearth wound once round the pot spirally, and then paſsed off up a chimney. The cape was of tin, and a straight tin tube of about two inches diameter, paſsing obliquely through a barrel of water, served instead of a worm. From sixteen pints of sea water he drew off fifteen pints of freſh water, in two hours fifty-five minutes, with three pounds of dry hickory and eight pounds of seasoned pine. This experiment was also repeated the next day, with the same apparatus and fuel, from the same parcel, but without the mixture. Sixteen pints of sea water yielded in like manner, fifteen pints of freſh, in one minute more time, and with half a pound leſs of wood. On the whole, it was evident that Mr Isaacks's mixture produced no advantage either in the proceſs or result of the distillation.

The distilled water, in all these instances, was found on experiment to be as pure as the best pump water of th

city. Its taste indeed was not as agreeable, but it was not such as to produce any disgust. In fact, we drink, in common life, in many places, and under many circumstances, and almost always at sea, a worse tasted, and probably a less wholesome water.

The obtaining fresh from salt [illegible], for ages, was considered as an important desider[illegible]m for the use of navigators. The process for doing this by simple distillation is so efficacious, the erecting an extempore still with such utensils as are found on board of every ship, is so practicable, as to authorise the assertion, that this desideratum is satisfied to a very useful degree. But though this has been done for upwards of thirty years, though its reality has been established by the actual experience of several vessels which have had recourse to it, yet neither the fact nor the process is known to the mass of seamen, to whom it would be most useful, and for whom it was principally wanted. The secretary of state is therefore of opinion, that since the subject has now been brought under observation, it should be made the occasion of disseminating its knowledge generally and effectually among the seafaring citizens of the United States. The following is one of the many methods which might be proposed for doing this. Let the clearance for every vessel sailing from the ports of the United States, be printed on a paper, on the back whereof shall be a printed account of the essays which have been made for obtaining fresh from salt water, mentioning shortly those which have been unsuccessful, and more fully those which have succeeded; describing the methods which have been found to answer for constructing extempore stills of such implements as are generally on board of every vessel; with a recommendation in all cases, where they shall have occasion to resort to this expedient for obtaining water, to publish the re-

sult of their trial in some gazette on their return to the United States; or to communicate it for publication to the office of the secretary of state, in order that others may, by their succeſs, be encouraged to make similar trials, and be benefitted by any improvements or new ideas which may occur to them in practice. TH. JEFFERSON.

A POLITICAL SQUIB.

Wit and humour are so rare talents in the present day that the Editor grasps at any thing of that kind wherever he can find it, or on whatever subject it treats. The following piece, though it might not have ranked among the first rate productions in the days of an Arburthnot or a Swift, occupies a distinguiſhed niche in the present day.

Ingleside December 3. 1792.

I, A. B. having verified my power to take under my conſideration whatever I please, and to resolve whatever I choose to resolve, have met with myself this 3d day of December 1792, being an organised body, elected myself preses of the meeting. Having taken the chair accordingly.

Resolved *1st*, That those who have nothing to do have most time to serve the people, and that as many of the leading members of the present reform societies are of this claſs much may be expected from their exertions.

Resolved, *2dly*, That those who are peeviſh and discontented, whether from natural temper, or disappointed ambition, being alive to their own greivances are best qualified to discover those of others; and as it is believed that several of the members of the said societies are of this description, the public may depend on their zeal and activity in fiſhing for causes of diſsatisfaction.

Resolved, *3dly*, That fools have always the highest poſsible opinion of their own wisdom, which they evince by perpetually giving advice and direction to others; and the great pains and expence the present reform societies have been at to inform the good people of this country

what is best for them, would be a proof of *their* folly, did not the following Resolutions, founded on principles implicitly received by all reformers, put it in the power of any society to be wise even to infallibility.

4*thly*, Resolved, That it has been resolved by all patriotic societies, that, to be free, a nation or great society has only to will it; and as a small society, or even an individual, is as capable of willing as a great one, and have an equal right to do so, a small society, or even an individual may be free when ever such society or individual is pleased to will it.

5*thly*, Resolved, That as it as easy to will one thing as another, if our present reform societies shall be pleased to will themselves wise, they are wise; therefore, fully competent to direct public opinion.

6*thly*, Resolved, That a word to the wise is sufficient, and that a society which adopts, as fast as they are read or spoken, resolutions which the press, without their knowledge has prepared a month before their meeting, is a wise and deliberative society.

7*thly*, Resolved, That an assembly of citizens, elected and delegated by the people to make laws for the protection of the individual, and for the peace and safety of the community, have no power to make laws.

8*thly*, That the self-elected societies which meet in oyster cellars and dancing schools, *&c.* in this and other towns, are competent to make laws for the government of the country.

9*thly*, Resolved, That this meeting shall correspond with no other meeting or society for reform, nor admit any new member, though furnished with the ticket of other societies, but shall continue to meet once a week, and resolve whatever it may be judged proper to be resolved, until the meeting of parliament shall render its meetings unnecessary.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9. 1793.

A TABLE OF GEMS, OF THE FIRST AND SECOND ORDERS, BY ARCTICUS.

For the Bee.

INTRODUCTION.

THE taste for natural history which obtains so generally at present, has made me think of sending you a table of the first and second orders of precious stones, which I composed for the use of my own collection; and have found so convenient and useful, that it is possible others may do the same, and avoid frequent references to authors, when leisure does not invite to such research.

The plan of it is as follows:

These are given in different columns.

1*st*, The names of the gems, ancient and modern.

2*d*, Their comparative hardness, on Mr Quist's plan.

3*d*, Their colour.

4*th*, Form of crystallization, internal structure, properties, native country, with some description of the largest and most valuable gems in the possession of sovereigns, &c.

5th, Rarity, and mode of estimating gems of the first order, with the uses the second are applied to.

6th, Specific gravity.

7th, Their component parts, or chemical analysis, in as many columns as they contain earths, metals, *&c.*

To render the table as useful as poſsible, every discovery, or interesting remark, made by ancient or modern authors on gems, is inserted, as far as the confined space will permit; particularly those of Pliny, Linnæus, Wallerius, Cronstadt, Bergman, Pallas, Rome de Lisle, Achard, Quist, Brunich, Kirvan, and Born; to which the author has added, the remarks he has himself made on those of Ruſsia, during a long residence in that country; with the verbal observations, from time to time communicated to him by the learned Ruſsian academicians; especially those of profeſsor Laxman, inspector of the Siberian foſsils, whose office and residence in that part of the empire, (the Indies of Ruſsia, with respect to minerals of all kinds) give him superior advantages, and by whose aſsistance the author has been enabled to point out with exactneſs, the spot where each article is found; a subject hitherto treated very incorrectly, by even the latest writer on it, *viz.* Mr Brunich, profeſsor of natural history in Copenhagen, whose work has been translated in this city, with many mistakes of the kind alluded to.

The chemical analysis

Is taken from Bergman, Kirvan, Achard, Klaproth, Crell's chemical annals, *&c.* but always from

the two first celebrated and accurate mineralogists, when the object has been examined by them.

Explanation of a few abbreviations.

Every thing has been avoided, as much as poſsible, the meaning of which is not evident at first sight; however, a few remarks may not be improper on the columns, perfectly intelligible to those conversant with mineralogy. That of comparative hardneſs is taken from Mr Quist's table, the Swediſh naturalist, as far as his extends; and the hardneſs of the rest are determined in his manner, by scratching one stone with another, or with steel. But his arrangement could not be followed in a table where scientific claſsification was observed, although it answered completely his view, which was merely to give an idea of that quality in gems, without attention to the form of their crystallization, chemical analysis, &c *.

The hardneſs of the stones are expreſsed by numbers placed opposite their names, descending from No. 20 (that of the white diamond,) which is made the point of comparison; much in the same manner that the learned and ingenious vice president of the Royal Society, the honourable Daines Barrington, expreſsed the comparative notes of singing birds some years ago. It may be worth remembering, for those who wiſh to purchase precious stones, that all those not harder than No. 11, in our table, may be scratched with steel.

* Mr Quist placed the stones, in his table, in such a manner, that every one was hard enough to scratch all below it in the column.

The column of acids may likewise require a few words of explanation to some, as the generic term, *acid*, is only wrote at the top of it, and the species indicated by a letter of the alphabet placed over the quantity found in a stone.

A. stands for aerial acid, or fixed air, F. fluor acid, P. phosphoric, T. tungsten, V. vitriolic.

In the column, *iron*, likewise, the letter D, placed over a quantity, indicates that the metal is dephlogisticated, or in the state of a calx.

The only remaining observation, necessary to render the table perfectly intelligible, is, that the terms *oriental* and *occidental*, as generally applied to gems, is not confined strictly to country. All the finest hard stones, of an uncommon water and colour, are commonly called oriental, wherever they may have been found; as the East Indies, in both ancient and modern times, has acquired the first reputation for such productions; although both America, and some parts of Europe, furnish the jewellers with gems of great beauty and value, which are often sold under the denomination oriental, as a sure claim to preference. Our Siberian *aque marine*, for example, I make no doubt is sold in other countries as such, to the great profit of the vender; at the same time that the purchaser will be no loser by the imposition.

A few words are likewise necessary to justify some additions, which the author of the table has taken the liberty of making, to render it more generally useful, not alone to men of science, but to the public at large.

1*st*, He has added to each order, (but in such a detached manner as not to interfere with scientific arrangement,) a few articles sold and worn as gems, although belonging to other classes of mineralogy, *viz.* the *turquoise* and *pearl* added to the first order, the one mineralized ivory, the other a species of animal production, formed by a number of coats or layers, like other animal calculi.

The *malachite*, so much resembling a beautiful green stone, and as such so much employed in ornamental trinkets, he has likewise taken the liberty of adding to the second order, in the same good intention, although of metallic origin; a circumstance very indifferent to the public at large. However, as said above, those heterogeneous bodies are noted in a detached section, in such a manner as not to hurt the feelings of scientific nomenclators. But for the rest of his additions he will make no apology, even to them, as they can be defended on principles of mineralogy; or rather no well founded scientific reasons can be urged against the rank assigned them as precious stones, being generally either late discoveries, not sufficiently known when the different systems were formed, or such stones, as from their beauty, value, and public estimation, merit a place in one or other of the orders of precious stones, when no good reason can be given for depriving them of it. However, to enable every one to judge for himself, all such additions are acknowledged in the article that treats of them, and the reasons given which induced the author to place them there. The additions to the first order are:

The *garnet* and *tourmaline*, not *generally* clafsed in it by authors, although not entirely innovations of his own; as will be seen in the table.

The *opal* and *cat's eye*, two valuable and beautiful gems, in high estimation, universally excluded, for reasons which ſhould not even influence in a rigid ſyſtem of mineralogy; far leſs in a table for the use of the public in general, as he has endeavoured to ſhow in the body of his little work.

The additions to the ſecond order are much more numerous.

The *vitreous calcidony*, or *ſemi-opal* of Mr Born; the *ſive ſtone* of Ruſsia; the *adularia* from mount Gothard in Switzerland; the *iris*, a variety of the adularia; the *gerasole* of the iſland of Cyprus; the *moon ſtone* from Ceylon; the *labrador* from America and Ruſsia; the curious *green felt-ſpar* of Siberia. The laſt ſix, only varieties of felt-ſpar, and ſtill highly entitled to rank with agates, *&c.* in the ſecond order, or the word, *precious*, muſt be omitted entirely in ſyſtems of mineralogy.

The *cinate*, the *thumſtein*, and *croſs ſtone* of Saxony; in ſhort the whole genus of *ſhorls*, in which there are ſeveral new diſcoveries from Siberia and other countries, highly deſerving a place in the ſecond order at leaſt.

The *Venus* and *Thetis'* hair ſtones of Siberia, the one containing capillary red, the other green ſhorl; and *avanturine* from Cape Gate in Spain, the very exiſtence of which ſtone ſeems to have been doubted by many naturaliſts, and its nature unknown to moſt of the reſt. Several more are mentioned in the text

although they do not appear in the column of names, where only such are placed as the author thinks cannot be denied a rank in the clafs of precious stones.

It would probably amuse, Mr Editor, some of your readers, to give here, at the end of the explanation of the table, a fhort state of the question so often alluded to above, *viz.* the reasons that have determined systematic writers on mineralogy, to give or refuse a place to certain stones in the two orders of *gems*.

Anciently, hard stones of the silicious genus, in other respects, of lustre, value, rarity, price, and public estimation, intitled to the appellation of precious stones or gems, might have been placed there without impropriety; but since chemistry has been so ably and properly called in to the aid of the mineralogist, it has been discovered, that the argillacious earth predominates in the composition of the greater number of the finer gems; and some systematic writers would willingly determine the first order by that leading character, which would undoubtedly be convenient and scientific if practicable; but in that case, the diamond, composed mostly of the inflammable principle, joined to an unknown earthy basis in small proportion, must be excluded. The *jargon*, or *adamantine spar*, commonly termed the soft diamond, must likewise be excluded, as a new earth, taking its name, predominates greatly. The aqua marine, admitted likewise by all writers to a rank in the first order, must be rejected by a late analy-

sis (if accurate,) as the silicious earth predominates considerably.

If transparencies and lustre ſhould rather be taken as a title of admiſsion, then many species of ſhorl must be received into the first order, instead of the second, where I have only ventured to place them.

Or ſhould specific gravity be employed as a test, still greater inconsistency would ensue; for one of the first mineralogists of the age has lately rejected the *amethyst*, because its inferior specific gravity, (only from 2.6 to 2.7,) led him to suspect that gem to be of a different nature, and even opposite to the rest; but the same reasoning has not led him to admit the *garnet*, although its specific gravity is from 3.6 to 4.188; and some of its varieties of great value, beauty, and public estimation, such as the *Syrian garnet*, of a colour between the amethyst and ruby, the *amethystezontas* of the ancients, and rock ruby of the moderns.

The *soranus* of the ancients, likewise, a beautiful red garnet, inclining a little to yellow, a variety of which, with a brownish tint, from Groenland, is sold by the jewellers for a hyacinth.

Equal objections would lay against admitting internal construction as a *test*; for, in that case, the beautiful ruby-coloured ſhorl, lately discovered in Siberia by Mr Hermon, described in my second order, must be received; as its texture is lamellar, exactly like that of the finer gems, as is the green transparent ſhorl, lately found by Laxman in the same country.

And as to external form of crystallization, so long held by writers as the great distinguiſhing character, I can produce from my own collection, in the genus of ſhorl alone, specimens affecting the crystallization of most of the finest gems.

After this little disquisition, I hope I ſhall find excuse for not adhering to any one distinguiſhing character yet devised by mineralogists; but forming my two orders from the value, beauty, rarity, and public estimation of gems, *under the restrictions mentioned above.*

By the above description of my table, Mr Editor, you will see that it cannot be upon a very small scale, although still contained in a large ſheet of paper; so that, ſhould it prove too extensive for the Bee, you have my permiſsion to print it separately, and dispose of it with, or without the number of your work, containing its explanation, as the taste of your different subscribers may lead to have them separately or together*. Yours,

ARCTICUS.

Imperial Corps of Noble Cadets in St Petersburgh, Feb. 20. 1792.

* The Editor has found it neceſsary, for the convenience of folding up, to alter the disposition of the parts a little. Instead of the tabular form, which is always troublesome in a small sized book, he has arranged it under distinct heads, containing precious stones of the *first* and of the *second orders*. Each denomination of stones, then, forms a distinct claſs, in which follows, in order,—The names, ancient and modern.—Hardneſs and specific gravity, including the whole range of each claſs, as far as they have been ascertained.—Varieties, and analyſis, in which is included all the particulars respecting each variety, as far as they have been yet ascertained; in this department, the following abbreviations occurs

ON THE GAME LAWS.

For the Bee.

It is the glory and characteristic of the laws of Great Britain, that they put the lives, the liberties, and properties, of the great body of the people, on a more certain footing, than the laws of any other state or nation in the universe. In Britain, every man is considered as a constituent member of the state; and every member of the state enjoys equal protection and security. It is this freedom and security, which has raised the yeomanry of Great Britain, to a degree of importance and estimation, which they enjoy in no other state.

If there is a single trace of feudal tyranny and despotism now remaining among us, it is in the game laws. It is owing to this sort of despotism being so deeply rooted in the constitution of the feudal kingdoms, that it has continued to flourish so long and so vigorously. The severity of the forest laws are well known. Almost all the English princes, from the time of the Conquest, were great hunters. William the conqueror, himself, was fond of the chace, [1099.] His son, William Rufus, it is well

H. hardness; Sp. Gr. specific gravity; Arg. argillacious; Sil. silicious; Cal. calcareous earths; M. denoting mild; C. caustic, or calx, when joined with an earth or metal; Ir. iron; Bar. barytes; Mag. magnesia; Nik. nikel. To these are added, the name of the person who had made analysis. Particulars that have not yet been ascertained, are always left unfilled up.—Form.—Structure.—Largest.—Where found.—Value and uses. Under each head, all the particulars respecting it, are severally arranged.

known, lost his life hunting in the new forest in Hampſhire. It is not to be wondered, then, that the laws made for the preservation of game ſhould be ſevere and oppreſsive. A mitigation of ſome of these laws conſtitutes a material part of the great charter obtained from king John; [1215;] and a farther explanation of them, expreſsly conſtitutes what was called the *charter of forests*, obtained from the ſame prince.

Many of our Scottiſh princes were alſo paſſionately fond of the chace. Alexander III. was killed by a fall from his horſe, when hunting in Fifeſhire; [1285;] James V. was fond of hunting; and his grandſon, James VI. was a perfect Nimrod. The equivocal diſaſter which he is ſaid to have met with at Perth, [1599,] from the earl of Gowry and his brother, happened when he was hunting near that place.

When the feudal princes took ſo much delight in this amuſement, it was natural for the great lords and barons to follow their example. Accordingly, many of them had hunting forests, ſecured by the ſame laws and regulations as the princes had theirs. Great hunting matches were the proudeſt exhibitions of their grandeur, wealth, and power. Some of theſe *fetes* continued ſo late as the reign of queen Elizabeth; and part of the entertainments furniſhed to her majeſty, on the memorable viſit ſhe paid to her favourite, the magnificent earl of Leiceſter [about 1570,] is ſaid to have conſiſted of hunting matches.

Indeed, it must be acknowledged, that the fatigues and exploits of the chace, are perhaps the most natural pastimes, for a warlike prince, and martial nobility, in the intervals of peace. In those days learning was neglected, trade was held in contempt, and even agriculture was held in little estimation; the great body of the people were slaves, devoted to the will and pleasure of their superiors.

But by degrees the principles of the British constitution began to gather strength. Literature was cultivated; trade was followed and protected; and agriculture was honoured and esteemed. The liberty and property of the people were secured by law; and, at length, the constitution of this country came to be, what it is at present, the pride of its own people, and the admiration of foreign nations. Then every man could say, "My house is my castle; my farm is my garrison, into which no man has right to enter without my permission."

At this time it would scarcely be imagined that the game laws should be a disgrace on the British statute book. Nor would it readily be imagined, that it should be enacted into a law, in the mild and enlightened reign of George III. [1770 stat. 10. cap. 19.] "that all persons killing game, on any pretence whatever, above an hour before sun-rise, or after sun-set, shall, without respect to sex or quality, and without any alternative or redemption, be committed to prison for three months at least; and be publicly whipt at noon day, in the prison where the town is situated."

Although the game laws, as they stand, certainly entitle gentlemen of a certain description to follow after, and kill game, both on their own estates, and on the estates of others, when permiſsion is obtained; yet these laws do not certainly entitle them to injure the property of their neighbours in this purſuit. The good ſenſe and liberal ſpirit of the ſupreme courts, both of this country, and of England, have ſettled this matter beyond diſpute.

The late deciſions in the caſes of the marquis of Tweeddale againſt Mr Hamilton of Pencaitland, and others; [1778;] and of captain Livingſton of Parkhall againſt the earl of Breadalbane; [1789;] and many other caſes, have put the matter beyond doubt. In theſe caſes, the pleadings of the lawyers are ingenious acute; and every argument is uſed for the hunters that can poſsibly be ſuggeſted.

But in theſe days, all the arguments that can be uſed for a ſportman's injuring, and breaking into the grounds of his neighbour, or inſulting him, appear weak and frivolous; for it is not imagined, that a plea can be urged, or a conſideration ſuggeſted, to authoriſe a gentleman, in purſuit of game, to injure or inſult his neighbour. The reſpect and independency of the people; and, in particular, of the body of farmers; the favour that is juſtly ſhown to agriculture, and whatever tends to promote it, as planting and incloſing of ground; the quiet and good government of the country; and the efficacy and inforcement of the laws, all tend to diſcourage any violations of the public peace in this way.

All our best writers on the laws, and on the general principles of civil liberty, both in England and Scotland, condemn the severity of the game laws. Blackstone, in entering on the subject of the game laws, says, [B. ii. c. 27.] "That, however defensible the provisions of the law may be in general, on the footing of reason, or justice, or civil policy, we must, notwithstanding, acknowledge, that, in their present shape, they owe their immediate origin to slavery." It is also well observed by an elegant writer on the criminal laws of England, [cap. 23.] "That every wanton, causeless, or unnecessary act of authority, exerted by the legislature over the people, is tyrannical and unjustifiable; for every member of the state, is, of right, intitled to the highest possible degree of liberty which is consistent with the safety and well being of the state." The same sentiment was elegantly and strongly expressed by Cicero, in his oration for Cluentius: "*Legum denique idcirco omnes servi sumus, et liberi esse possumus.*"

The Roman, or civil law, is said not to have known any distinction as to the article of game; but that it forbade any man to hunt or sport in another man's property without his consent; which appears to be a reasonable restriction. The present civil prohibitions took their rise at the time when the barbarians overran the Roman empire, and laid the foundations of the great kingdoms of Europe; when the commanders of the conquering armies found it convenient to disarm the inhabitants of the conquered countries, and parcel out the lands among their own followers, to

break the spirit of the people, in order to establish their own despotism.

But the intention of laws is sometimes defeated by their severity. When Peter I. of Russia made a law, that whoever preferred a *false* complaint to him, should suffer death, it put an entire stop to all applications of this sort. When the same prince ordered his subjects to cut off their beards, the Russians resisted the order, not from a belief that liberty consisted in an exemption from being shaven, but that they considered the edict as a wanton and oppressive act of power.

When in the beginning of the 17th century, in the reign of James I. it was made felony for a person infected with the plague to converse with strangers, it was impossible to object to a severity, which although fatal to individuals, was essential to the general safety of the people. But when in the close of the 18th century, in the reign of George III. it is made a capital crime to cut down a cherry tree in an orchard*, the thinking part of mankind must listen to such a law with irreverence and horror; for they know that the evil to be prevented, is by no means adequate to the violence of the preventative.

Supposing a sportsman in pursuit of game to enter a farmer's cultivated fields, to break down his fences, to trample his grain or pastures, and when challenged for such trespass, to use threatening, or abusive, or insulting language, the farmer is certainly fully justified, in the first place, in endeavouring

* This law ought to have been particularly quoted. *Edit.*

to prevent the trespass; and, in the second place, in resisting any violence that may be offered him; and, finally, he is well founded in an action of damages for the injury done him.

For as to supposing the sportsman to have any foundation for an action against the farmer, for prevention or resistance, it is ridiculous and absurd. The sportsman is the aggressor; and in meeting with interruption, he only pays the penalty of his intrusion. This is known to be the present spirit of the law; and as the general liberty and security of the subject, become every day more the concern of the legislature, it is hoped that these laws will continue to be more and more liberally interpreted *.

The illustrious Bacon defines good laws in these words, with which I conclude these remarks, "Lex bona censeri possit, quæ sit intimatione certa, præcepto justa, executione commoda, cum formâ politiæ congrua, et generans virtutem in subditis." But it is feared the game-laws do not fall under this description.

* Would it not have been better in the ingenious writer to have proposed that the laws that are judged too severe, ought to be *repealed?* It is a dangerous doctrine to inculcate a disregard to the law by judges: This makes the executors of the law become the legislators; and in that case no man can know when he is trespassing the law or not. The only rule of conduct that a good citizen can look up to in a well regulated state, is the law; and it ought to be the study of every good member of society to support the law against every invasion, by whomsoever it be made. When a change of circumstances render a law no longer applicable to the state of society, therefore, let it be *repealed*; for while it continues in force, no person ought to be allowed to transgress it with impunity. Were this rule adhered to, our statute book would not be loaded with such a mass of absurd laws, which only serve to entrap the unwary, and procrastinate law suits; to the ruin of honest individuals. *Edit.*

Shakespeare, who had the singular talent of turning his genius to every train of ideas, has touched the affair of family honour with his usual delicacy.

"Peace! master marquis. You're a malapert! Your fire-new stamp of honour is scarce current. O! that your young nobility could judge what 'twere to lose it and be miserable!——They that stand high have many blasts to shake them; and if they fall they dash themselves to pieces." RICH. III.

The subject is not exhausted; but let these observations suffice. In the meantime I am, *&c.*

Oct. 20. 1792. NERVA*.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS
BY TIMOTHY SOBER.

For the Bee.

"IT is all *a tale*," said Will to one of his female cousins, who spoke of going to church next day. "My brother and I are to have a ride into the country." The lady was shocked at the rudeness of the declaration, and, instead of an approving smile, Will was rewarded with a frown. This young gentleman was placed early in life at a distance from those whose more immediate duty it was to guide his unpractised years; and thus left at liberty in

* The Editor has used the liberty to shorten this paper a little; for which he hopes to obtain the forgiveness of the ingenious writer. Every person, as he justly observes, must be sensible, without any argument to prove it, that it is not consistent with the character of a *gentleman*, and consequently that it is incompatible with the duties of an officer, to injure any person without giving them ample compensation, far less to insult or abuse them.

the choice of his companions and pleasures, he soon exchanged the sober principles which had been carefully instilled into him, for others more flattering and fashionable. When he made the above open and frank acknowledgement of his opinions the other evening, he was just come from a friend's house, where he had dined, and done honour to the excellent *quality* of the wines, by carrying off with him a very decent *quantity*. Inspired and elevated with the entertainments of the table from which he had lately risen, Will was ambitious, in the absence of those whose years and authority would have been a restraint, of shewing his superiority to vulgar weaknesses and prejudices. Whether he expected that such a bold discovery would recommend him more strongly to the favour of the ladies, I will not determine.

As I found myself altogether unqualified for joining in that sort of polite conversation, which the gentleman had introduced, and seemed desirous of continuing, with the help of his younger brother, who has imbibed the same generous and enlarged sentiments, I instantly withdrew, leaving Will and his cousins to manage the matter between them. For my own part, I am still resolved to persist in that primitive practice of observing the Sabbath day, which can do me no manner of harm, till my understanding shall be so far enlightened, as to perceive, with Will, that the Christian religion is all a *tale*. If it be a *tale*, as Will says, and he no doubt has *his reasons*, sure it is a *good* one.

Nov. 13. 1792. TIMOTHY SOBER.

LUCUBRATIONS OF TIMOTHY HAIRBRAIN.

To the Editor of the Bee.

Th' excefs of every virtue is a vice. POPE.
It is good to be good, but not to be too good. PROVERBS.
Be not righteous overmuch. HOLY BIBLE.

IT is a trite expreſsion, Mr Editor, and therefore a just one, that a looker-on often sees more of the game than the player. This gives me an advantage in my garret, that others who are more keenly engaged in the bustle of the world do not enjoy. What a bleſsing it would be to France if there were a sufficient number of *garreteers*, such as myself, to become impartial spectators of what is going forward there! provided that, like me, they too could publiſh their observations to the world, whenever the spirit moved them so to do. But alas! I fear it is in this land, alone, that this kind of freedom can be enjoyed. And long may we enjoy it! for the liberty of the preſs is the *palladium* of this island. When that ſhall be lost, all will be gone. But I hope never to see the day when that ſhall happen; for it would be the most dismal day that ever Britain experienced.

As I was taking my solitary stroll along the street, as has been my custom for thirty years past, to spy what I could spy, I happened to walk along the North Bridge behind two gentlemen, who, by their accent, seemed to be foreigners, though they spoke our language very well; and as they were speaking louder than the usual pitch, I was natural-

ly induced to attend to their conversation. One of them told the other that his wife had been aſsaulted last night upon the street when going home, in company with himself, by some young fellows, who impudently came up to her, and desired to have a kiſs; observing that this city must be under very bad police, indeed, when such atrocious proceedings could be tolerated. The other, with great warmth, inveighed against such ſhameful inattention in the magistrates; and observed, that there would have been no harm in poignarding fellows who could be guilty of such atrocities. I ſhrugged up my ſhoulders, and quietly walked off, saying in my mind, "It is good to be good, but not to be too good." I hate these poignards most abominably: and I am not over fond of that kind of rigid police, that would put a man's life in danger for an innocent piece of youthful levity. I am now, Mr Editor, an oldiſh fellow, and not apt to fall into extravagancies of conduct myself; but I remember that I was once young, and used to like a little bit of an innocent frolic dearly.

"Let us not be righteous overmuch." I do not forget the case of Sirvan, so ably stated by Voltaire. The spirit of freedom cannot exist where people dare not indulge the smallest grain of eccentric extravagance. Let us so moderate these youthful sallies, as to prevent mischief; but under the pretext of strict police let us take care not to cruſh the spirit of freedom.

In pursuing my peregrinations a little farther, I stepped into a bookseller's ſhop, where two other

gentlemen were conversing with an equal degree of keenneſs. From the tenor of their converſation, I could ſoon perceive that they both had been in India, and were of that caſt of men who may be called *violent defenders of the conſtitution*, and who think themſelves at liberty to ſpeak out at preſent on that ſubject with great freedom. They railed with prodigious volubility againſt all the *friends of the people*, as theſe gentlemen tauntingly named a ſet of men, who, about a month ago, carried their heads on high, but who are at preſent much chop-fallen, and peaceably inclined. Thinks I to myſelf, this verifies the old proverb, as my friend Sancho Pancha would have ſaid, "Every dog muſt have his day;" and "He that runs faſt cannot run long;" and "He muſt needs ride faſt whom the devil drives." Theſe "friends of the people," when they thought they were likely to have power, drove on at a furious rate, and thought every thing was going ſwimmingly on with them; but mark how ſoon this mad career has been ſtopped. Well it is that the bulk of the people of this country have ſo much ſenſe as to check ſuch fools in their wild courſe. But is it not, thought I to myſelf, though I uttered not one ſyllable, is it not wonderful, that mankind ſhould be ſo fooliſh, as ſo often to ſtep at once from one extreme to another, without being ſenſible they are juſt running their heads, full tilt, againſt the ſame poſt that overthrew their opponents. "The exceſs of every virtue, (ſays my motto,) is a vice." To defend the conſtitution is a virtue; but if, in trying to defend that conſtitution, we give too much

power to any one part of it, we doubtleſs overturn the balance which conſtitutes its chief excellence. These two conſtitutional men, as they called themſelves, in the abundance of their zeal, breathed nothing but fire, fury, and faggots, against every writer who dared but to hint the ſmallest whisper about abuses in administration; but those in particular who had mentioned peculations in India, or hurtful monopolies, or the evils that resulted from extended conquests, and undue influence obtained by that means, were treated without mercy. A pamphlet which was lately publiſhed in Edinburgh, many parts of which I remember had first appeared in your Bee, which, with more force than politeneſs, had pointed out various abuses of these kinds, drew down their severest censures. "Have you that cursed pamphlet?" said one of them. 'What pamphlet, Sir?' said the bookseller. "The thing written by——[here my correspondent mentioned a name much and justly respected in this country, which I suppreſs,] said he." 'O! (says the bookseller,) I suppose it is the Political Progreſs of Britain, you mean?' "Yes, the very same."—'Here it is, Sir, at your service.' "What is the price?" 'One ſhilling, Sir.' "Curse upon the villain! He says there is nothing but peculation and robbery in India, (addreſsing himself to his brother nabob.)——I will pay the ſhilling, that I may have the pleasure of burning it!"——I smiled mentally again, and betook me to my travels once more, with the old proverb still uppermost in my mind, "It is good to be good, but not to be too good." And, like

friend Sancha, I added, " Set a b—— on horseback and he will ride to the devil," so away I went.

" You surprise me exceedingly," said a gentleman to his companion, as I came up behind them at the croſs ; " for of all the men I know, he is among the last, I ſhould have ſuppoſed could have been accuſed of ſeditious practices ; for it is well known, that he has on all occaſions been one of the ſteadieſt ſupporters of our conſtitution that could any where be found. You muſt certainly be miſtaken." ' I aſſure you, Sir, I am not.' " Well, this is driving the joke too far ; and I wiſh they may be aware of the conſequences. When they proſecuted——, and —— and —— [Here my correſpondent had ſeveral names well known in this place at preſent, which I ſuppreſs,] every one was ſatisfied that thoſe who had been evidently propagating ſeditious doctrines ſhould be puniſhed for ſo doing. But if a man, the whole tenor of whoſe conduct and writings, has been to inculcate the moſt moderate and rational ideas reſpecting government, ſhall be ſubjected to the dread of proſecutions, imprisonment, and fines, becauſe he has permitted an occaſional freedom of cenſure, of abuſes that all the world muſt condemn, I ſhould think it but a ſtep farther to eſtabliſh the Venetian ſtate Inquiſition among us. I ſay once more, therefore, you muſt be miſtaken. No perſon of ſenſe can ever think of making ſuch an attempt in the preſent time. Beſides, it were moſt ridiculous to make choice of ſuch a man to try their hand upon ; as it notorious to all who have read his writings, that theſe have tended, perhaps more than any

others to allay the popular ferments that lately prevailed; and"—Here he was interrupted by a friend wiſhing him the compliments of the season, so that I was obliged to go on and leave them; though I had a great desire to stay that I might have learnt who the person was to whom he alluded. Perhaps, Mr Editor, you may be able to gueſs who he was. But whoever it was, if the character given of him be just, I am perfectly of the same opinion with the speaker: for our constitution is so sound, notwithstanding all that has been said about it, that there is no fear but it will afford protection to any guiltleſs person. Those who are best acquainted with the history of that constitution, know, that all the most valuable privileges it has secured to the people, were obtained in consequence of indiscreet attempts having been made to infringe these privileges.

Wiſhing you the compliments of the season, and all succeſs to your useful publication, I remain, as heretofore, your friend, as you are pleased to call me,

TIMOTHY HAIRBRAIN*.

Jan. 2. 1793.

* The Editor might perhaps form a probable conjecture in answer to the query of his correspondent; but this he at present declines; being perfectly convinced, that if any thing of the kind hinted at had been intended, it could only have proceeded from haste and misconception; and that no harm could result from it to any innocent person. It is only ill informed persons who can entertain any dread of the effect of arbitrary proceedings in the present day; nor can the Editor suppose that any person in power has so little sense as ever to entertain an idea of the poſsibility of effecting any thing of that sort just now, even in Scotland.

THE NOBLE HERMIT, A FRAGMENT SOLILOQUY.

For the Bee.

HAIL lovely morn! Thou vivifying beam
That gilds the orient, chacing to the west
The damps and shadows in the rear of night,
All hail! Ye blooming fields, ye vernal groves
Array'd with beauty, where a thousand birds
Mingle their melodies, I greet you well!
Ye murm'ring brooks, ye rills and lofty rocks,
Incumbent o'er this solitary vale,
My grateful salutation ye deserve;
For ye have granted me benign repose,
Sweet peace of mind, and freedom from the goad
Of tyrannising passion, precious gifts
To him that estimates their worth aright!
More valuable far than wealth or pow'r:
In vain amid the din and pomp of war,
'Mid clanging armour, burnish'd helm and spears,
And prancing steeds, caparison'd, and all
The dread array of marshall'd hosts, in vain
I sought to find them! Calm contentment flies
To shades and solitude. I ne'er beheld
Her placid eye amid the glare of courts.
The lofty palace, the stupendous dome,
The fretted roof, the sculptur'd pillar, hewn
With rare device of masonry; the hall
With minstrelsy resounding, and the feast,
What are they? the resort of quiet? No;
Of envy rather, and of bitter hate.
Calm quiet! have I found thee? Yet one care
Alarms my bosom, like a sullen cloud
Flying athwart the vernal sky. My Armine,
The prop of my declining age, the solace
And the treasure of my soul, brooks not
A life of lone retirement and of ease;
Eager he pants for arms, and long, by deeds
Of daring hardihood, to mark his name.
But I must med'cine this his fond conceit,
And that right skilfully; for if he knew
The fame of his high ancestry, deriv'd
From Odin, and the purple tide that flows
Impetuous in his veins, transmitted pure
Through a long line of heroes, and that I,
Beneath the banner of the holy Cross,
Fought not inglorious, when bold Godfrey led
The flow'r of Europe to Jerusalem,
Not all the wisdom of the cloister'd sage,
Not all the rev'rence to his father due,
Could rein his fiery soul.———

CESSFORD NEAR TWEEDSIDE, A. L.
October 2. 1792.

CHARACTER OF THE ARABS BY SIR WILLIAM JONES.

All the genuine Arabs of *Syria* whom I knew in Europe, those of *Yeumen* which I saw in the island of Hinzuan, whither many had come from Maskat for the purpose of trade, and those of Hojoz whom I have met in Bengal, form a striking contrast to the Hindoo inhabitants of these provinces. Their eyes are full of vivacity, their speech voluble and articulate, their deportment manly and dignified, their apprehension quick, their minds always present and attentive, with a spirit of independence appearing in the countenances even of the lowest among them. Men will always differ in their ideas of civilization; each measuring it by the habits and prejudices of his own country. But if courtesy and urbanity, a love of poetry and eloquence, and the practice of exalted virtues, be a juster measure of perfect society, we have certain proof that the people of *Arabia*, both on plains and in cities, in republican and monarchial states, were eminently civilized, for many ages before their conquest of *Persia*.

It is deplorable, that the ancient history of this majestic race should be so little known in detail.——The manners of the *Hejazi Arabs*, which have continued from the time of *Solomon* to the present age, were by no means favourable to the cultivation *of arts*; and as to *sciences*, we have no reason to believe that they were acquainted with any; for the mere amusement of giving names to stars, which were useful to them in their pastoral or predatory rambles through the deserts, and in their observations on the weather, can hardly be considered as a material part of astronomy. The only arts in which they pretended to

excellence (I except horsemanſhip and military accompliſhments) were poetry and rhetoric. That we have none of their compoſitions in proſe before the *Koran*, may be aſcribed, perhaps, to the little ſkill which they ſeem to have had in writing; to their predilection in favour of poetical meaſure; and to the facility with which verſes are committed to memory. But all their ſtories prove that they were eloquent in a high degree, and poſſeſſed wonderful powers of ſpeaking, without preparation, in flowing and forcible periods. I have never been able to diſcover what was meant by their book called *Rawásim*, but ſuppoſe that they were collections of their common or cuſtomary law.

Writing was ſo little practiſed among them, that their old poems which are now acceſſible to us, may almoſt be conſidered as originally unwritten. And I am inclined to think that Samuel Johnſon's reaſoning on the extreme imperfection of unwritten languages, was too general; ſince language, that is only ſpoken, may, neverthleſs, be highly poliſhed, by a people who, like the ancient Arabs, make the improvement of their idiom a national concern, appoint ſolemn aſſemblies for the purpoſe of diſplaying their poetical talents, and hold it a duty to exerciſe their children in getting by heart their moſt approved compoſitions.

So great, on the whole, was the ſtrength of parts or capacity, either natural or acquired from habit, for which the Arabs were ever diſtinguiſhed, that we cannot be ſurpriſed when we ſee that blaze of genius, which they diſplayed as far as their arms extended; when they burſt, like their own dike of *Arim*, through their ancient limits, and ſpread, like an inundation, over the great empire of *Iran*. That a race of *Tázis*, or *Courſers*, as the *Perſians*

call them, " who drank the milk of camels, and fed on lizards, ſhould entertain a thought of ſubduing the kingdom of *Feridun*," was considered by the general of *Tedergerds'* army as the ſtrongeſt inſtance of Fortune's levity and mutability; but *Ferdausi*, a complete maſter of *Aſiatic* manners, and ſingularly impartial, repreſents the Arabs, even in the age of *Feridun*, as " diſclaiming any kind of dependence on that monarch; exulting in their liberty, delighting in eloquence, acts of liberality, and martial atcheivements; and thus making the whole earth, ſays the poet, red as wine with the blood of their foes; and the air like a forest of canes with their ſpears." With ſuch a character, they were likely to conquer any country that they could invade; and if *Alexander* had invaded their dominions, they would, unqueſtionably, have made an obſtinate, and probably a ſucceſsful reſiſtance.

AN ORIGINAL LETTER.

The following letter is tranſcribed from the MS. collection mentioned vol. xii. p. 215. and contains an excellent ſatire on travellers of a certain caſt. The reader will eaſily perceive it does not allude to France in the preſent day.

Paris in France this ſixteenth day of June, &c.

EVER HONOURED SIR, MONPERE,

AFTER my humble duty remembered to you, hoping you are in good health, as I am at this preſent writing, this is for to let you know, that we left Dover laſt Tueſday was three weeks, to ſail upon the main ocean ſea; and having a bloody ſtrong gale of wind, we got to Callis in four hours. But I did not half like it, for I was moſt conſumed ſea ſick; and our Dick was ſo abominatious bad, that I thought he would have been *vivat rex*, and dy'd upon the ſpot. He muted and caſt up to that de-

gree, as if he would have brought up his very pluck and harslet. We had no sooner landed but we hurried to the governor, and then took to the customhouse, where we had a mortal deal of trouble with my portmantle; and Dick had like to lost the bag where was all my clean linen and old shoes; and as neither Dick nor I then understood one word of French, we had like to have been bamboozled; but by the help of a well spoken English gentleman, a very handsome bodied person in the face, (whom I found was a drawer at the Silver Lion tavern, there,) we got out of that scrape, and he very civilly carried us to the house where he had the honour to serve. There we lived in clover, and there I met with two English travellers going to Paris; the one a huffing young spendthrift, with a blue purple scarlet coat on, all bedizened with lace; a silly puppy, that could neither play at putt nor all-fowers, but wanted me forsooth to play at quadrill, which I knew no more of than the pope of Rome; so I smelt the boy, and shunned him. The other was an Oxford scholler, just come from Cambridge,—a mere ninny! His first question was, if I was acquainted with the classicks; and I in return asked him if he was acquainted in Essex; and let him know you was of the Quorum, and that I was your son and heir; but as for the family of the Classicks, I was sure there was no such in our country, or none of any note. Upon this he grinned, and turned away upon his heele; and so I found the fellow was a foole, and I was glad I got sheere of him, and resolved to keep no English gentlemen company; because first and foremost, they spend their money at no rate, and I do not desire to keep such conversation, because I know it argufies nothing; and their pretences of friendship are nothing but blandation; and I, resolving to live within compass, (do you see) designed to go to Paris in a waggon; and Dick

was of the same opinion. But when I called for a reckoning, (blood and thunder!) I may say that there was the devil to pay; but as the saying is, *neceſsitas non habet leggs*; so I paid it with as good a will as if I had swallowed a hedge-hog.

We set out early one morning, in company only with three Frenchmen, (very clever gentlemen indeed.) One of them spoke pretty good bad Engliſh, and had been a footman to a half-pay officer; the second was a rope dancer; and the third taught dogs to set, and the like; but surely they were the most complaisant gentlemen that ever were born or christened. Whatever I said, they said so too; if I sneezed, they bowed; if I laughed, they did the same; if I yawned, they stretched their jaws, and so forth. We were ten days in getting to Paris. Sometimes I rode, and sometimes I walked, and paſsed through many towns and cities; but I knew better than to puzzle my brains to remember their names, which would argufie nothing at all, if so be I came for improvement, and the like of that. My fellow travellers were so mortal civil to me, that I could do no leſs than bear their expences, though I was forced to use some violence (as it were) to engage them to accept of it. However, I lost nothing by it; for, in return, they taught me French as fast as hops, so that by the time we got to Paris, I could say, *we Monseer* and *non Monseer*, as well as the best of them, and so could our Dick too. But they all said that they never knew any body ever learnt so much in so little time; and I am of the same mind too, though I say it, that ſhould not say it, and that's a proud word; but *inum* for that——*Tace* is Latine for a candle.

At Paris, by advice of my friend the footman, I took lodging at a friends of his, at a six souse ordinary, up two pair of stairs in a back lane, because of cheap living. For,

thinks I to myself, as I came here only to see fashions, I may as well do that out of a window up two pair of stairs, as out of a parlour; and to save charges Dick lies with me, but is dismally afraid of spirits, and of things walking, because he can't speak a bit of Latine.—And for my own part, I resolve (as the saying is) to keep only the best of company. So I found a sufficient number of very polite gentlemen, that lodg'd in the same house; that is to say, two journeymen taylors (natives of Ireland,) two Italian fidlers, and the chief toad eater to a very noted mountebank; but sure and sure, had you but seen how they all honoured, bow'd to, and complimented me, you would have taken your corporal oath, that they were men of quality, and knew that I was somebody! I seldom go abroad, because I can see the world fast enough out of my chamber window; but when I do get out, one or more, and sometimes all these civil gentlemen wait on me; and poor Dick is so afraid of being lost, that he either takes hold on my sword, or the lappet of my coate, whenever I go into the city; and as I never weare my best cloaths for fear of daubing them, so he never wears his new livery, lest people should take me for some lord, and murder me for my money, or cut his throat for the sake of his cloathes. I don't go to a play, because they say sad naughty women are there; and I have been at court but once; and I will insure you, that I will never go twice; for I think in my heart, that it is as fine a sight to see our quarter sessions. But it seems my merit could not be hid there; for I am told by one, that heard it from the king's corn cutter, that he was informed by one of the pages in waiting, that he thinks he heard the cardinal say, as how as he almost thought that I was somebody of distinction, if the truth was known, and the like of that.

I must not forget to tell you, that they are all here either papishes or Roman catholicks; and I take them

at no price; so that when I have seen fashions one week more, I design to return from beyond sea, in order, Sir, to make you a grandfather, if I live and do well, as the saying is. The whole city have there eyes upon me, espacially the ladies, who I am told are all in love with me; and every one saies I am vastly improved by travelling, and that I am so witty and so wise, that they never saw the peer of me in all their borne days. And as I have now seen the world, I hope the gentlemen of the country will be so wise as to put me up for one at the next election.

Pray give my love and service to Mrs Peggy; and bid her prepare to be happy; she knows well enough what I meane. Dick remembers his love to all the fox hounds, particularly to Duches, and desires of all Love, that, if she lies in, he may be put down for a puppy. So no more at present, but my love to Tom Jackson, and goodman Hickumbottom, and to the parson and his aunt, which is all from, dear papa, your ever loving son till death,

W. Boobykin.

P. S. Here is a vast cunning man lives at the very next door; he proffers, for a luidore, (as they call it,) to learn me to make spells and charms, and love powders; and will teach me to rais the devil into the bargaine; which I think may be of great use to me at elections, and in fox hunting, and so forth. And as I have a capacity for any witty thing, I have a huge mind to learne; and he says, if I will turn papish, he will give me the true receipt to make the philosopher's stone, and that will turn every thing I touch into gold, and silver, and money, and the like; but I should beg his diversion for that, for I han't a mind to be damn'd at present; and I hope I never shall, if I live and do well, and so forth, as the saying is. W. B.

OF MAN AS A RAPACIOUS ANIMAL.

[*From Mr Smellie's philosophy of natural history.*]

In contemplating the system of animation exhibited in this planet, the only one of which we have any extensive knowledge, the mind is struck, and even confounded with the general scene of havock and devastation, which is perpetually, and every where, presented to our view. There is not perhaps a single species of animated beings whose existence depends not, more or less, upon the destruction of others. Every animal, when not prematurely deprived of life by those who are hostile to it, or by accident, enjoys a temporary existence, the duration of which is longer or shorter according to its nature, and the rank it holds in the creation; and its existence universally terminates in death and dissolution. This is an established law of nature, to which every animal is obliged to submit. But this necessary and universal deprivation of individual life, though great, is nothing, when compared to the havock occasioned by another law, which compels animals to kill and devour different species, and sometimes their own.

In the system of nature, death and dissolution seem to be indispensible for the support and continuation of animal life.

But though almost every animal, in some measure, depends for its existence on the destruction of others, there are some species, in all the different tribes or classes, which are distinguished by the appellation of *carnivorous* or *rapacious*, because they live chiefly or entirely upon animal food. In the prosecution of this subject, therefore, we shall, in the *first* place, mention some examples of animal hostility or rapacity; and, in the *next* place, endeavour to point out such advantages as result from this

apparently cruel institution. On the last branch of the subject, however, the reader must not expect to have every difficulty removed, and every question solved. Like all the other parts of the economy of nature, the neceſsity, or even the seeming cruelty and injustice, of allowing animals to prey upon one another, is a mystery which we can never be able completely to unravel. But we are not entirely without hopes of ſhewing several important utilities which result from this almost universal scene of animal devastation.

Of all rapacious animals, man is the most universal destroyer. The destruction of carnivorous quadrupeds, birds, and insects, is, in general, limited to particular kinds. But the rapacity of man has hardly any limitation. His empire over the other animals which inhabit this globe is almost universal. He accordingly employs his power, and subdues or devours every species. Of some of the quadruped tribes, as the horse, the dog, the cat, he makes domestic slaves; and though, in this country, none of these species are used for food, he either obliges them to labour for him, or keeps them as sources of pleasure and amusement. From other quadrupeds, as the ox, the ſheep, the goat, and the deer kind, he derives innumerable advantages. The ox kind, in particular, after receiving the emoluments of their labour and fertility, he rewards with death, and then feeds upon their carcases. Many other species, though not commonly used as food, are daily maſsacred in millions, for the purposes of commerce, luxury, and caprice. Myriads of quadrupeds are annually destroyed for the sake of their furs, their hides, their tusks, their odoriferous secretions, &c.

Over the feathered tribes, the dominion of man is not leſs extensive. There is not a single species of the numerous and diversified claſs of birds, which he either does

not, or may not employ for the nourishment of his body. By his sagacity and address, he has been able to domesticate many of the more prolific and delicious species, as turkies, geese, and the various kinds of poultry. These he multiplies without end, and devours at pleasure.

Neither do the inhabitants of the waters escape the rapacity of man. Rivers, lakes, and even the ocean itself, feel the power of his empire, and are forced to supply him with provisions. Neither air nor water can defend against the ingenuity, the art, and the destructive industry of the human species; man may be said even to have domesticated some fishes. In artificial ponds, he feeds and rears carp, tench, perch, trout, and other species; and with them occasionally furnishes his table.

It might have been expected, that insects and reptiles, some of which have a most disgusting aspect, would not have excited the human appetite. But we learn, from experience, that, in every region of the earth, many insects which inhabit both the earth and the waters, are esteemed as delicate articles of luxury. Even the viper, though its venom be deleterious, escapes not the all devouring jaws of man.

Thus, man holds, and too often exercises, a tyrannical dominion over the whole of the brute creation; not because he is the strongest of all animals, but because his intellect, though of a similar nature, is vastly superior to that of the most sagacious of the less favoured tribes. He reigns over the other animals, because, like them, he is not only endowed with sentiment, but because the powers of his mind are more extensive. He overcomes force by ingenuity, and swiftness by art and persevering industry. But the empire of man over the brute creation is not absolute. Some species elude his power by the rapidity of their flight, by the swiftness of their course, by the obscurity of their re-

treats, and by the element in which they live. Others escape him by the minuteneſs of their bodies; and, instead of acknowledging their sovereign, others boldly attack him with open hostility. He is also insulted and injured by the stings of insects, and by the poisonous bites of serpents. In other respects, man's empire, though comparatively great, is very much limited. He has no influence on the universe, on the motions and affections of the heavenly bodies, or on the revolutions of the globe which he inhabits. Neither has he a general dominion over animals, vegetables, or minerals. His power reaches no species, but is confined to individuals. Every order of being moves on in its course, periſhes, or is renewed by the irresistible power of nature. Even man himself, hurried along by the torrent of time and nature, cannot prolong his existence. He is obliged to submit to the universal law; and, like all other organized beings, he is born, grows to maturity, and dies.

Though man has been able to subdue the animal creation, by the superior power of his mind, his empire, like all other empires, could not be firmly establiſhed previous to the institution of pretty numerous societies. Almost the whole of his power is derived from society. It matures his reason, gives exertion to his genius, and unites his forces. Before the formation of large societies, man was perhaps the most helpleſs and least formidable of all animals. Naked and destitute of arms, to him the earth was only an immense desert, peopled with strong and rapacious monsters, by whom he was often devoured. Even long after this period, history informs us, that the first heroes were destroyers of wild beasts. But after the human species had multiplied, and spread over the earth; and when, by means of society and the arts, man was enabled to conquer a considerable part of the globe, he for-

ced the wild beasts gradually to retire to the deserts. He cleared the earth of those gigantic animals, who, perhaps, now no longer exist, but whose enormous bones are still found in different regions, and are preserved in the cabinets of the curious. He reduced the numbers of the voracious and obnoxious species. He opposed the power and dexterity of one animal to those of another. Some he subdued by addreſs, and others by force. In this manner, he, in the proceſs of time, acquired to himself perfect security, and eſtabliſhed an empire which has no other limits than inacceſsible solitudes, burning sands, frozen mountains, or obscure caverns, which are occupied as retreats by a few species of ferocious animals.

LITERARY OLLA BY ASCANIUS TRIMONTANUS. No. I.

For the Bee.

Extract of a letter from Sir J. F. 1787.

"To-day when I went to look for the papers you desired, I could not find them; though I looked not only in every place where they ſhould have been, but also in every place where they ſhould not have been; and I now almost totally despair of ever finding them.

"As for personal exertions, they are not now to be expected from me; for, on a due consideration of my real case, I find that I am really dead, partly by the effects of old age, which have been exaggerated by too much sensibility. But as it is no unusual thing to publiſh a man's writings after he is dead; and that you expreſs a desire to see poems formerly composed by me, I will here give you one that was made when I was really alive. And as I believe I remember it yet, and that we dead folks have little to do, I will here transcribe it; as I can retrace it

from the impression it has left on the fibres of my brain. It needs no comment, but it is necessary to mention that the subject was a young lady, my fellow passenger, who slept in a hammock.

I burn for no terrestrial dame,
Mean object of ignoble flame;
My bold ambition dares aspire,
To charms more worthy of desire.
Th' exalted beauties of a fair,
Who scorns vile earth and lives in air;
And o'er our heads exalted flies,
Like some bright native of the skies.
From Britain's isle to Tagus' shore,
Haste, haste, ye winds! to waft her o'er;
Come from yon mountain's steepy side,
Come leave the garden's painted pride;
Where'er ye sport, on earth or air,
This beauteous maid claims all your care;
A nobler charge than to convey
A royal navy on its way!
Thou gentle Tagus mourn no more,
That av'rice drain'd the precious ore;
A richer prize thy waves behold,
Than all thy sands if chang'd to gold:
What star, O Lusitania, shed
Its baleful influence on thy head?
Hardly escap'd th' Iberian chain,
Instant destruction threats again;
Nor can Britannia's faithful aid,
Protect thee from this dangerous maid;
For where her conquering charms assail,
Nor arms nor counsel can avail;
Struck by th' artillery of her eye,
'Tis vain to fight, too late to fly;
In one promiscuous ruin all,
Protectors and protected fall.

"The late Sir J. F. is heartily tired of writing so long; if the reader be half so tired, it will be wished he had rested quietly in his grave. But he will not think his posthumous labour lost if it serve to divert his friends; and the letter is written with mysterious intention, that, whichever of the spouses, his said friends is pleased with it, may accept the compliment from the deceased, who, from his regard for them, still feels the truth of what Virgil

delivered long ago, that, whatever strong prepoſſeſſions a person had while alive,

"Eadem sequitur tellure repostos."

FROM THE ENVIRONS OF THE AISLE AT C——.

*** The sprightly and elegant letter from which this is extracted, was one of the last written by a man, who, though little known in the great world, was an honour to his profeſsion as a soldier, and to literature.

THE ADVANTAGES OF LITERATURE.

BY learning, a man becomes an inhabitant of the world at large, and a contemporary of all ages. Books are like ſhips, which paſs through the vast seas of time; and make the most distant ages to participate of the wisdom, illumination, and inventions, the one of the other.

LORD BACON.

How much superior must that merchant be who deals upon such boundleſs stores, imported from all ages, and from all countries, to him who trades only upon his own narrow home stock! PINKERTON.

HINT ON THE REIGN OF HENRY VI. OF ENGLAND.

IN the annals of England, we meet with no period more remarkable than the reign of Henry VI. It was a reign stained with blood! There were no leſs than twelve dreadful conflicts for the poſſeſsion of the crown, by Engliſhmen alone. Ten dukes, twenty-one earls, two marquiſses, two viscounts, one judge, one lord provost, one hundred and thirty-nine knights, and four hundred and forty-one esquires, fell a sacrifice to the sword!

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE Editor is much obliged to his learned correspondent *A. B.* for the valuable historical notices with which he has been favoured, which shall have a place as soon as possible.

The *anonymous ode* on friendship, does not possess all the poetical fire that that kind of composition requires. It is feared some of our hypercritical readers might object to it.

The communication by *Astra*, may be deemed by some rather severe; but we shall try to give it a place.

The communication by *P. H. N.* is thankfully received; and shall be inserted with the first convenience. His farther correspondence will be very acceptable; and the drawing of the rare bird will be deemed a particular favour.

A *Reader* is requested to pardon the seeming inattention of the Editor. The paper in question is in the hands of a medical gentleman, and according to his decision, it shall be disposed of as the writer desires.

The favour of *Autor* is received; and shall have a place as soon as possible. The evil he complains of cannot be too often or too severely reprehended.

The Editor is much obliged to *M. M. M* for his favourable opinion; and the hints he gives for the farther improvement of this work shall be duly attended to; but it is too highly complimentary to appear in this miscellany without alterations.

The very valuable original memoirs of *lord Hailes* are received with gratitude, and must be acceptable to all readers, they shall appear as early as possible. In the mean while, any farther interesting notices of this honourable man will be received with gratitude.

Two farther continuations of the *traveller* are received, and shall appear with convenience.—The directions of *W. E.* shall be duly attended to.

The anecdotes of *Professor Simson* are peculiarly acceptable. Real anecdotes of worthy men, tending to display character, and not raked up for the purpose of depreciating merit, will always be received with thankfulness.

The memoirs of (the first,) *lord Napier* are also received, and are submitted, before publication, to the revisal of a gentleman well acquainted with the history of that family.

The additional memoir by *P. H. N.* on the poison of serpents, is come to hand. Such communications, as they tend to disseminate useful knowledge, are always highly acceptable to the Editor of the Bee.

The literary *olla*, No. 2d is received, and shall appear soon.

The original letter by an eminent character lately deceased, to Mr Pennant, is thankfully received, and shall have a place soon.

As also another letter from the same on East India affairs.

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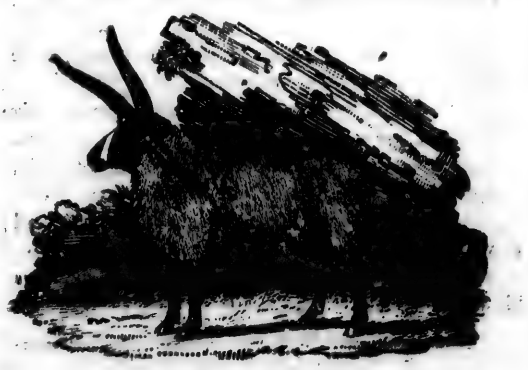
THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16. 1793.



ERSKINE,

A RAM WITH FOUR HORNS.

THE above is a very exact representation, drawn from the life, of a ram, having four horns, that was lately sent in a present to the Society for the Improvement of Britiſh Wool, by Thomas Erſkine, esq. his Britannic majesty's consul at Gottenburgh.

This animal may be deemed rather a curious, than useful species of ſheep. Its wool is neither ve-

ry fine, nor uncommonly abundant. It is about the size of the common black faced sheep in Scotland; that is, it may weigh from 15 to 20 lb *per* quarter. It is a lively active animal, and has every appearance of being healthful and hardy; but has no other quality to recommend it.

The horns, which are the greatest singularity of this sheep, are so exactly delineated in the drawing, as to require little description. The two foremost are nearly straight; and more resemble the horns of a goat than a ram, being straight and not twisted. The other two lie backward, and resemble the first pair in every other respect.

There is another peculiarity in this animal, very unusual in sheep. It is a white strip that runs across the nose, slanting downwards towards the left side, as appears in the figure. There are also some marks on the legs not usual among animals of this class, all of which are very exactly delineated.

The wool is white and shagged, the face and legs black and smooth.

ON THE MARINER's COMPASS.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

THE magnetic needle, or mariner's compass, an instrument as curious as it is useful to mankind, has, for several years, engaged my attention at leisure times.

It is, I believe, impossible to ascertain, when, where, or by whom, this admirable machine was first discovered. For though the attractive virtue of

the magnet was known to the ancients, its much more valuable property, of direction to the north, has not been generally admitted until about the year 1300.

Flavius Blond affirms, that, in the year 1302, one John Goia, a noble citizen of Amalphi, a town of Principato, in the kingdom of Naples, first discovered the mariner's compaſs; and for this he quotes the following verse from Antony of Palermo, recorded by the Neapolitan historians, *viz.*

Primo dedit nautis usum magnetis Amalphi.

The arms of the territory of Principato, has, it seems, ever since, been a mariner's compaſs. It has also with equal confidence been aſserted, that Marco Paulo, the Venetian, learned the use of the mariner's compaſs from the Chinese; and that he first made it known in Italy about the year 1260. But M. Paulo did not set out on his journey to China before the year 1269, nor did he return till 1295*.

In the works, however, of Claude Fauchet, entitled *Recueil de l'origine de la Langue et Poesie Françoise*, [fol. 555,] there is a quotation from *la Bible Guiot*, as follows. After mentioning the north pole, which he calls Tramontane, he says,

" Icelle etoile ne se muet,
" Un art font que mentir ne puet,
" Par vertu de la Marinette,
" Une pierre laide et noirette,
" Ou li fer volentiers se joint."

Profeſsor Muschenbrock, in his *Diſsertatio de Magnete*, has quoted this same paſsage *verbatim*, though in that publication there are some typogra-

* See Purchase's Pilgrim, vol. iii.

phical errors *. But the author of *Spectacle de la Nature* has it more correct; and in that ingenious performance I first met with it.

This, however, served only to excite, but not to satisfy my curiosity. I wished to know the general subject of this poem; and how the pole star, the magnet, or the mariner's compass happened to be mentioned in it. After some inquiry, I found that there was a curious and interesting quarto manuscript of the 13th century, on vellum, in what was then justly titled the Royal Library at Paris. The first article of which *la Bible Guiot*, says my correspondent, is a severe satire against the manners of the age in which he lived, (the twelfth century;) he neither spares the court of Rome, the secular and regular clergy, nor any of the sovereigns of Europe. He signifies that the object of the ancient philosophers, in their writings, was to reproach bad princes with their conduct and their faults; and what our author points at, is to trace a natural picture of the vices of men, with a view to correct them; but it is conducted with great art, couched in terms pointedly keen, and managed at the same time with great delicacy and judgement. It has never yet been published.

This *Guiot de Provins*, as mentioned in the poem itself, was at the court of the emperor Frederic de Barbarosa, held at Mentz in the year 1181, when that emperor's two sons were knighted †.

* Such as *Acolle* for *Icelle*; and *Montir* for *Mentir*.

† See Chron. Abbat. Ursperg. p. 311.

"The passage, (continues my correspondent,) in *la Bible Guiot*, i. e. the book of Guiot, where the pole star, the magnet, and the mariner's compass are mentioned, is by way of comparison; whereby the author gives us to understand, that as this star, being apparently immoveable, is a sure guide to the mariners; so the pope, by his steady conduct, and strictness of manners, ought to serve as an example of virtue to all the *faithful*."

As you have already been so good as insert in your very useful miscellany, (June 29. 1791,) a copy of part of this old poem, with a translation, such as could at that time be procured, (for the language is so antiquated, that it is not an easy matter to translate it properly,) what I have herewith sent you is by a native of Provence, and as literal as possible. The words *festu* and *festui*, probably the same as *fescu* or *fetu*, is therefore translated a straw, though some will have it a pivot or pin, a point or pointer, *&c.*

The author of *Spectacle de la Nature* already mentioned, in giving a rational, and not improbable history of this discovery, says, "from one experiment to another, they came to lay a needle, touched with the loadstone, on small bits of straw, (*brins de paille*,) floating on water, and to observe the needle invariably turn its point towards the north." That this might possibly be the first kind of mariner's compass, may be proved at any time, by taking a common sewing needle*; and after touching it on a magnet, natural or artificial, stick it on, or put it into a

* The needle should not be too small.

piece of straw*, sufficient to make it swim on a cup of water, and you have a sea compass, such as Guiot describes, at once.

But soon after this, says the author above mentioned, an understanding workman, observing that this needle was liable to be too much tossed by the motion of the vessel, "bethought himself of suspending it on a pivot, or immoveable point, *&c. &c.*"

If you can spare only one page more for this same extract and translation on that subject, you may possibly, in a little time hence, receive some farther communications from your wellwisher,

ALBIONENSIS.

Extract from la Bible Guiot.

Icelle estoile ne se muet,
Une arts font qui mentir ne puet,
Par la virtu de la manete †
Une piere laide et brunete,
Ou li fers volentiers se joint.
Ont regardent lor ‡ droit point
Puez l'une aguile lont touchie,
Et en un festu lont fichie
En longue la mette sens plus,
Et li festui la tient desus;
Puis se torne la point toute
Contre lestoile sans doute,
Quant li nuis est tenebre et brune
Con ne voit estoile ne lune,
Lor ‡ font a laguille alumer;
Puis ne puent ils asarer,
Contre lestoile vers la pointe;
Por ce sont ¶ li marenier cointe,
De la droite voie tenir;
Cest uns ars qui ne puet mentir.

* The straw must be perfectly dry, as well as the needle, otherwise they will be apt to sink to the bottom.

† Manete, magnete, magnes, the loadstone. This word is improperly written in different manuscripts; as marinette, mariniere, marniere, *&c.* In the next line also, M. Fauchet has noirette, where it is brunete in my correspondent's manuscript.

‡ Lor, alors. ¶ Ce sont, se sort.

Jan. 18.

swim on a cup
, such as Guiot

hor above men-
observing that
ch tofsed by the
nself of suspend-
nt, *&c. &c.*"
re for this same
bject, you may
ve some farther
er,
ALBIONENSIS.

uiot.

5

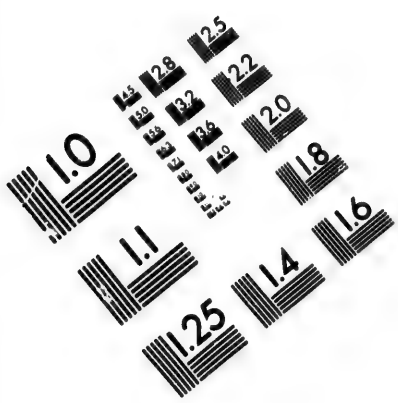
10

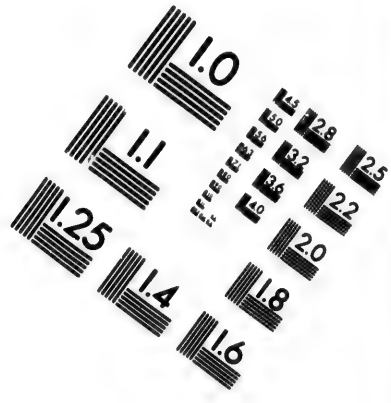
15

20

s the needle, otherwise

This word is improper-
marliere, marniere, *&c.*
where it is brunete in my





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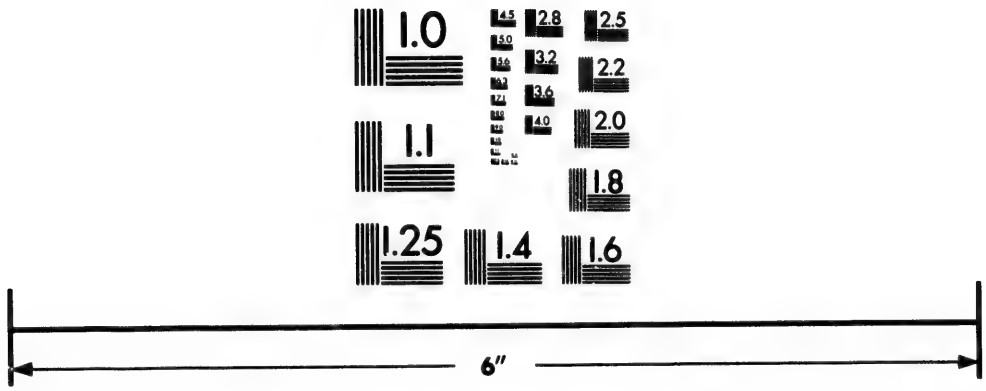

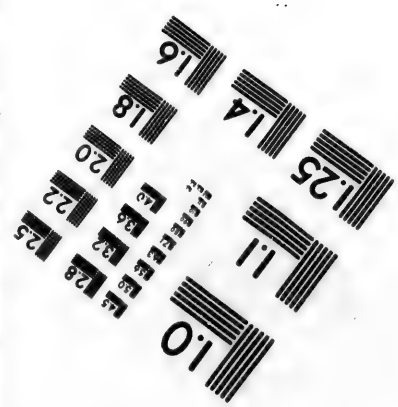

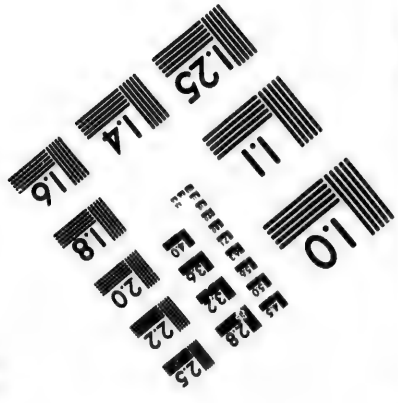

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Literal translation of the preceding.

This same (the pole) star does not move, (and)
They (the mariners,) have an art which cannot deceive,
By the virtue of the magnet,
An ugly brownish stone,
To which iron adheres of its own accord.
Then they look for the right point,
And when they have touched a needle, (on it,)
And fixed it on a bit of straw
Lengthwise in the middle, without more,
And the straw keeps it above;
Then the point turns just
Against the star undoubtedly.
When the night is dark and gloomy,
That you can see neither star nor moon,
Then they bring a light to the needle;
Can they not then assure themselves
Of the situation of the star towards the point (of the needle?)
By this the mariner is enabled
To keep the proper course:
This is an art which cannot deceive.

An ingenious friend of mine observes, that, besides the antiquated language, this poem must have suffered from the carelessness of transcribers, as may appear by the preceding notes. In the ninth line also, "longue," or "langue," as some copies have it, should, he thinks, have been "l'eau;" and in the same line, "mette," may have been "mettent." The passage would then run thus:

"When they have touched a needle, and fixed it in a piece of straw, they have only to put it in water, and the bit of straw keeps it on the surface." In line 16th "asarer," he supposes should have been "asurer, &c." But we cannot pretend on this occasion to use such freedoms with the original.

N. B. The expletive words, included in parenthesis in this translation, were thought necessary to make it the more intelligible, though they are not

in the original; only in my correspondent's copy, the second line runs thus:

Une arts font, (les Marins,) qui mentir ne ſuet.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I HAVE sent you the following remarkable letter (which I received from a friend in the east,) for publication, in your periodical work. The subject is the self-devotion of the bramin females of distinction, on the death of their huſbands. I am confident that to many of your readers there will be found nothing peculiar or new in this account of the manner in which this horrid practice is generally performed; yet I am not leſs certain, that it will be both new and singular to a part of your readers; and as it is a late instance of that practice, I beg you will give it a place in your Bee. W. W—TE.

The self-devotion of the FEMALE BRAMINS *at the death of their* HUSBANDS.

DEAR SIR,

WITH the most unequivocal reasons to remember you among my friends, I have often thought, during my absence from the presidency, that it behoved me to write you; but I have ever been at a loſs for a subject of sufficient importance, to license a trespaſs on your numerous avocations. At length, however, one has occurred, which, if it cannot boast of much weight, may not be unacceptable on the score of singularity. I will proceed to describe it without farther exordium. It is an instance of the self-devoti-

on practised amongst the bramin females of distinction on the death of their husbands.

"I was hastily summoned by a bramin friend yesterday, about five in the evening, to be a spectator of this dreadful ceremony. Soon after my conductor and me had quitted the house, we were informed that the *sultee*, (for this is the name given to the lady who thus devotes herself,) had passed by, and we soon traced her route by the mark of the *gulal** she had thrown around her, and the betle leaf which, as is usual on these occasions, she had scattered.

"She had reached the moolach† before I arrived; and having performed her last ablutions, was sitting on the margin of the stream. Over her was held an astabghur; an attendant fanned her with waving a handkerchief; and she was surrounded with her relations and friends, the populace being kept aloof by a guard from the Circar. In this situation, I learnt from good authority, she distributed amongst the bramins, two hundred rupees, exclusive of the toys she was decorated with, of which she reserved only the little ornaments on her nose, called *bulawk*, and the slight bangles round her wrists; her position prevented my seeing more of her than her hands, the palms of which being joined, they were uplifted in an attitude of invocation. Quitting, therefore, this place, I removed to an eminence, which gave me an opportunity to view the structure of the funeral pile, and commanded the path-way by which I understood she would approach it.

* Red powder thrown as she passed. † The river where she washed.

"The spot chosen for its erection, was about forty yards from the river, directly in front of her as she sat. When I came up, the frame alone was raised. It consisted of four uprights, each about ten feet high, and its length about nine, and the breadth of it under six. From near the tops of the uprights was suspended by ropes, a roof of slender rafters, laid lengthwise, parallel with each other; on this was placed as many billets as it seemed capable to bear, while, beneath, a pile was raised of more substantial timbers, to the height of about four feet; this, again, was covered with the straw called *curwee*, and bushes of dried toolsee. The sides and one end being thus closed up with the same materials, the other extremity was left open and formed an entrance. The dismal tenement being thus completed, soon after, the lady rose, and came forward, walking amid friends without support. She approached the door, and there having paid certain devotions, retired a few paces, and sat incircled as before. The dead body was now brought from the river side, (where it had hitherto lain,) and deposited within the hollow of the pile; several sweetmeats were put in after it, and a large paper bag, containing either flour, or the dust of sandal. The widow, rising, walked three times round the pile, when seating herself on a small square stone placed opposite the entrance, she accepted, and returned the endearments of her friends, with great serenity. This done, she again stood up, and having stroaked her right hand in an affectionate manner over the heads of her dearest relations and friends, with a great inclination of

her person towards them, she let her arm fall round their necks in a faint embrace, and turned from them. Now, with her hands indeed raised to heaven, but her poor eyes cast in a glare of total abstraction, deep in that care of anguish which awaited her, she stood a while a piteous statue. Good God! have mercy upon her! At length, without altering a feature, or the least agitation of her frame, she ascended the door-way unassisted, and lying down on the right side of her husband's corpse, yielded her tender body, in the full meridian of its youth and beauty, a victim to a barbarous and cruel consecrated error of deluded faith. As soon as the lady entered, she was shut from our view by several bundles of straw, with which the aperture was closed; and all the actors in this tragic scene, seemed to vie with each other who should be most forward in hurrying it to a conclusion. In the same instant the air was darkened by a cloud of gullot! The cords being cut which sustained the roof, let it fall to crush the limbs of the yet living sacrifice! The dreadful flame was communicated to the pile in a variety of parts, and the loud clamour of the trumpet assailed the ear from every quarter. When the conflagration became general, and not till then, it was fed for a time with large quantities of ghee, thrown by the nearest of kin; but no combustible whatever, that either I saw or could learn, was used in preparing the wood of which the pile was composed. It is said to be a custom, that, as the lady ascends the pile, she is furnished with lighted tapers; and some bramins with whom I conversed, assert, that it was

the case in this instance; but I traced the whole progress with so close and eager an attention, that I think I may safely contradict them.

"Before I left the place a *choaky* was posted over it, where it was to remain till the fire went out, that no accident might befal the bones of the lady, certain of which are there either preserved as most sacred relics, or made an offering to the holy stream of the Ganges.

"As your curiosity may be excited to know who the subject of this shocking, though here I find by no means uncommon immolation, I will endeavour to satisfy you. Her husband's name was *Ragaboy Tantea*, a young man about thirty. He was nephew to Junaboy Daddah, a person of distinction, and the *amatt* of this city. Her name was Toolseboy. A beautiful little girl, not more than four years old, the fruit of their union, survives them. Toolseboy was about twenty years of age, her stature above the middle standard, her form elegant, and her features interesting and expressive; her eyes, in particular, large, bold, and commanding. At the solemn moment in which I saw her, these beauties were eminently displayed and conspicuous, notwithstanding her skin was discoloured with turmeric, her hair dishevelled, and wildly ornamented with flowers, and her looks (as they struck me throughout the whole ceremony) like those of one whose senses wandered; or, to come nearer the expression*, whose soul was already fleeting, and in a state of half separation from her body.

* Impression.

"Having thus communicated you every thing relative to this spectacle which fell under my observation, or has come to my knowledge, permit me to subscribe myself. Yours," *&c.*

The reader, after his perusal of this letter, will naturally find his curiosity excited to know the motives which gave rise to this shocking practice. I have no opportunity, however, at present, to give any satisfaction from their own history. I remember to have read something concerning the chief causes which gave it its rise; but I cannot venture to lay any traces of it, which my memory may have retained, before your readers, as many of them will have the advantage of late publications on the history of Indostan, where this species of immolation will be fully accounted for.

I will, however, throw out some suggestions of my own, which you are at full liberty to publish or suppress, according as you think them worthy of public amusement, or agreeable to common sense.

One probable cause may have been the murder of some chief bramin, or some of their priests, by their wives; or the wives, possibly, from bad treatment, or roused by jealousy, or other motives, *&c.* had committed frequent murders on the bodies of their husbands. The bramin priests, therefore, to provide for the safety of their lives, had suggested this sacrifice of their wives on the death of their husbands, to make them more careful of their lives, and prevent such unnatural murders.

There is another reason which we may venture upon. There is a jealousy peculiar to all the eastern

nations of their women. This probably had operated so far with the men, as to render the idea of their widows making a second marriage a very unpleasant reflection. This, in many, (I had almost said in every situation,) is a disagreeable reflection even to ourselves. The woman whom we doated upon with fondneſs, and admired with all the warmth of love and friendſhip, I say that the reflection, or ſupposition that this woman ſhall, in a ſhort time after our death, become equally fond of, and dear to another man, is by no means an agreeable consideration, even on a sick-bed, when the senses are confused in pain, and the more important buſineſs of eternity occupying the mind. If these motives had any weight with the bramin priests, they would make it a tenet of their religion, that the injunction might be more strong and reasonable, aſsuring them they would be immediately present with their huſbands, and have every enjoyment with him in a future state they had in this. There is another inducement to this sacrifice. If they refuse to go through this trying conflict, they are supposed to have had no love for their huſband, and consequently become slaves to their own children; and are derided with scorn and infamy by their friends and sect, and lose the dignity of their *cast* or rank in life. Whatever may have been the motives for this practice, it certainly requires a resolution fired with the warmest enthusiasm, to enable their women to go through this furnace of trial, without which, the utmost degree of affection, with some women, would be insufficient to urge them to make the attempt. Some

men and women have ſhrunk at enterprizes, from a conſtitutional tremor or weakneſs, which they have contemned in the nobleneſs of their ſpirit. But what will enthuſiasm, when urged by religion, not do? The human mind only requires to be made warm in the cauſe of any thing, and enthuſiasm will carry us through it, with a contempt of every thing that tends to obſtruct its courſe. There may be as much enthuſiasm in the death of ſome martyrs, as in the ſelf-devotion of a bramin female, or in the contempt with which an Indian priſoner treats his tormentors. Enthuſiasm may often be uſeful to religion, but it ought not to influence it. There is nothing more plain than the difference which ſubſiſts between them; the former being a compound of ſelf-love, or ſelf-righteouſneſs, pride, and preſumption, whereas the latter is adorned with all meekneſs, diffidence, charity, and humiliation, *&c.* and makes the Chriſtian appear in his own eyes as a little child. I am, Sir, yours, W——W——.

Girvan, March 5. 1792.

ON JUSTICE.

For the Bee.

The peace of ſociety dependeth on juſtice; the happineſs of individuals, on the certain enjoyment of all their poſſeſſions.

Pay the debts which thou oweſt; for he who gave thee credit, relied upon thy honour; and to withhold from him his due, is both mean and unjuſt. ECONOMY OF HUMAN LIFE.

MR EDITOR,

THERE are few things of more importance to the tradesman, and treated with greater indifference

by his customers, than the regular payment of small debts.

These are as a cancer eating gradually into his credit, and if not timeou prevented, will not fail to prove his ruin.

To the man of business in a contracted sphere, these appear more vulnerable even than debts of a considerable amount; especially if the person he runs long accounts with, may be denominated a good debtor. In looking over his books, the latter of these appear as cash payable on demand, or certain at a subsequent period; whilst the former he is afraid to present, in case of offending, or ashamed to give in, owing to their trifling import, till the credit runs above the profit; and then it is probable his negligent debtors turn out to be slow payers still.

All small accounts, however trifling, should, if possible, be settled once a-twelvemonth; and this is a season, at the commencement of a new year, peculiarly adapted for this purpose.

Many there are who attend to this laudable practice of clearing off the scores of the old year, at the beginning of the new. Others, I am sorry to add, do not.

These I would address in your own language, at the close of volume eleventh, of this work. "The sums due by each individual must appear very trifling to them; but when many small sums are added together, the amount becomes considerable, and of some consequence to the Editor." It is the same with the merchant, the tradesman, and common mechanic, upon whose traffic and industry, so much of

our comfort and happineſs depends. The ſums due by their various cuſtomers and employers, are of no value ſeparately conſidered; but, taken collectively, they become a real drawback and burden upon trade whilſt they remain unpaid, as they afford ample relief and aſſiſtance when the whole is regularly cleared off. Every reaſonable perſon will allow this; and, it is hoped, will attend to theſe hints, now that another year is commenced, in caſe they have neglected to ſettle their accounts at the concluſion of the old; particularly thoſe, however ſmall, as are of long ſtanding.

The rigid ſeaſon, the ſcarcity of coals, and the advanced price upon almoſt all the neceſſaries of life, conſpire to call aloud at this time; inattentive then muſt be the ear, and hardened to every emotion the heart, that remains unmoved by thoſe numerous intreaties, to this indiſpenſible duty they owe to their fellow creatures. JUSTICE.

Jan. 2. 1793.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

For the Bee.

LET not any one build the hopes of to-morrow on the calm evening of the preſent day. The moſt horrible earthquakes are generally preceded by motionleſs clouds.

A little mean ſoul may, upon a particular occaſion, do a *generous* action. But only a great mind can do it in a generous manner.

A TABLE
OF
PRECIOUS STONES OF THE FIRST AND SECOND ORDERS.

ORDER FIRST*.

Class first.

§ 1. THE DIAMOND.

The ADAMAS of both ancients and moderns.

HARDNESS from 20 to 18; SPECIFIC GRAVITY from 4,4 to 3,2.

Varieties.

WHITE, PINK, BLUISH, YELLOW, CUBIC, GREEN, BLACK.

[*N.B.* Cut green diamond must be very rare, as it flies to pieces when applied to the turning lathe, like the *lachryma Batavica*, so often shown in classes of natural philosophy.]

WHITE diamond,	Hardness	20	Specific gravity	3,7
PINK ditto	ditto	19	ditto	3,4
BLUISH ditto	ditto	19	ditto	3,3
YELLOW ditto	ditto	19	ditto	3,3
CUBIC ditto	ditto	18	ditto	3,2

Analysis.

The DIAMOND burns away, and leaves but little soot; but it is found to be of an unknown earthy nature. By some late experiments, there is reason to believe that the diamond is composed of a particular gas and water; but here some farther elucidations are still wanted.

* The Editor has been favoured with the following notices concerning the gems &c. found in Scotland, by a gentleman who has made that branch of science a particular study.

§ 2. THE JARGON, OR ADAMANTINE SPAR OF CEYLON.

HARDNESS 16; SPECIFIC GRAVITY 4,4.

Varieties.

The JARGON formerly known, was either *white*, *yellow*, or *brown*. The new varieties are *greenish*, with the splendour of silver; or *dark grey*, with that of pinchbeck.

Analysis.

JARGON H 16; Sp Gr 4,4; New Earth 68; Sil 31½; Ir and Nikel ½;
KLAPROTH of Berlin.

There are but few of the gems that are not found in Scotland; and as for the more common stones, such as agates, jaspers, granites, porphyries, &c. there is no place in the world that has a greater variety.

The diamond has never been found in Scotland. The Sapphire has been found in several places in the Highlands of Scotland, of different shades, from a deep to a perfect clear transparent white, and equal in hardness to the oriental sapphire. The Topaz is also found in most places of the Highlands, of various shades, from almost an orange, to a pale straw colour, and are commonly called *Caringarom stones*, being the place where most found. Mr. Farquharson of Invercauld has the largest ever found in Scotland, and which was got upon his own ground. It is as large as the body of a child of two years old. None is found with more or less than six sides. The nearest to the Hyacinth found in Scotland, is the Ely Ruby, so called by the people of Ely in Fife, which, when polished, is very beautiful. This is found amongst the sea sand. Part of the rocks under the sand is stuck full of this stone; but none of them are got of any size and clean.

The Emerald, and Aqua Marine are found in several places of the Highlands. The amethyst also. Some are found of a very large size, and good colour:—the largest polished one I have seen, was upwards of an inch over, every way, and proportionally cut, which was sold for forty guineas:—I have seen another, much the same size, but paler in the colour, valued at thirty guineas, which is in the possession of lord Napier, and has a portrait of one of the ladies of his family cut upon it.

Pearls are found in a long shaped fresh water muscle, [*mytilus, cygnus, and anatinus,*] in the most part of every fresh water river in the north of Scotland; and have been fished to great advantage, until prohibited by the proprietors, as encouraging idleness among the lower class of people. This

Form.

The diamond is most commonly octoedral, though sometimes rhomboidal, cubic, or dodecœdral. Jargon, or soft diamond, as it was formerly called, we were told is found in a dodecœdral, or in a pebble form, split into thin plates in India, and sent to Europe in that form; but the same stone, under the name of the *adamantine spar*, is said lately, by Mr Born, to

shell fish is called the *horse muscle*:—some of these pearls were of great size; they are frequently found in the common sea oyster: in one oyster I found five pearls of different sizes. They are often found in the common muscle, but of a small size.

The Garnet is found in great quantities in the Highlands, some as large as a walnut.

There is also found at Portsoy, most beautiful Granite, which takes a fine polish; at first sight one would take it for Hebrew characters. The spotted Jaspers found on Arthur's Seat are singular, as none of the kind have ever been known to be found any where else.

A few of the fossils found in Scotland, are, a great variety of curious earths; mica, talcs, lapis specularis; great variety of granites; great variety of porphyries; great variety of jaspers of all colours; garnets imbedded in granites; garnets in micaceous stones, from Inverary; garnets in clusters, from Portsoy, containing iron and tin; great variety of shorls imbedded in quartz; bar shorls, pointed shorls; variety of red unfigured zeolitus mineralized; great variety of asbestus; great variety of variegated amiantlus; variety of fasciculated amianthus; variety of zeolitus plumosus; variety of amianthus flexuosa, or crooked amianthus; variety of iron ores, grey and black cobalt ores; Gluneta cobalt ores with silver; red, green, and yellow cobalt ores; mountain green copper ores; white copper ore; with a vast variety of cobalt and silver ore, lead, bismuth, &c.

The eyed pebbles found in Scotland are most beautiful; there is scarcely any thing like them found any where else.

The green jasper, or blood stone, from Icolmkiln island, is found in large blocks, and is a beautiful stone, which engraves well, and answers well for seals.

The chalcedony, or white cornelian, found in Fife, is equal to those from the East Indies for colour, and are the same hardness.

N. B. Those mentioned in the table which are marked thus * are found in Scotland.

be found in Ceylon, under the singular form of octoedral prisms, separated by an intermediate prism; and that he is in doubt if he ſhould claſs it here, or as a white hyacinth; whilſt Klaproth mentions it under the name of *zirkan*, as found in ſmall prisms, fat to the touch, and only ſometimes transparent.

Structure, Properties, &c.

The DIAMOND. Texture lamellar or foliated, like all the reſt of the finer transparent gems; that is to ſay, compoſed of thin hard plates, ſtrongly adhering together. Electric on friction, and phoſphoric in the dark.

The JARGON approaches the nearest in colour to the diamond; in ſo much, that ſome jewellers have been deceived, and purchaſed them for diamonds when ſet into work; though they are not much harder than chryſtal, of which the jargon is only a ſpecies. It is never found of any conſiderable ſize; and always is, in its rude ſtate, a little rounded, as if it had been rolled in the bed of a river. When unſet, they have not much brilliancy; and may be diſtinguiſhed with certainty from diamonds, by obſerving the facets, which in the jargon are always rounded. The tables never ſo flat, nor take ſo fine a poliſh as the diamond.

Largeſt.

The largeſt rough diamond belongs to the king of Portugal, from the Braſils. It weighs 1680 carats, and is worth five millions and a half ſterling, at the loweſt calculation. This gem was ſtill larger; but the ignorant peaſant who found it, broke off a piece by a violent blow of a hammer upon an anvil, to try its hardneſs. The largeſt *cut* diamond adorns the ſceptre

of the empreſs of Ruſsia, weighing 779 carats: worth four millions and a half ſterling. It is ſaid to have been one of the eyes of the famous Malabar idol, Scheringham, obtained by the ſtratagem of a French grenadier, who eſcaped with it, firſt to Trinchinapenty, and then to Madras, where he ſold it to a captain of a ſhip for 20,000 rupees. A Jew purchaſed it from the captain for L. 18,000 ſterling; and it was no more heard of till, in 1766, it was offered for ſale by a Greek merchant, Gregory Sufras, and purchaſed by prince Orlof for about 135,417 guineas, not the thirtieth part of its real value, who preſented it to his ſovereign Catherine II. The next largeſt cut diamond belonged to the great Mogul, weighing 279 carats, worth L. 380,800. The third belongs to the king of Portugal, worth L. 369,800, as it weighs 215 carats. The fourth to the emperor Leopold II. weighing 139½ carats, worth L. 109,520. The fifth to the French king, called Pit's diamond, of 136 carats, worth L. 208,333; and he had another, called the Sancy diamond, only of 55 carats, but great brilliancy, worth L. 25,000. Black diamonds exiſt, although rare. The great Mogul had one of fifty-ſix carats: and prince Lichtenſtein had likewiſe one, weight unknown to the author of this table.

Where found.

The diamond mines of the Eaſt Indies, towards the Gatte mountains, furniſh the beſt and in greateſt quantity, *viz.* Golconda, Coulour, Raolconda, Parteal, Latawan, Malacca, *&c.* They are alſo found in the iſland of Borneo; but at the preſent day, the Braſils furniſh the greateſt number. The *jargon* is

found likewise in the Brasils, and in the East Indies. We are told of several varieties of this stone, *viz.* the white, known so long to naturalists and jewellers under the name of the soft diamond. A second from Ceylon, in prisms, of the two forms mentioned above. A third from Bombay, of a dark grey colour, resembling the metallic splendor of pinchbeck. A fourth from Bengal, of a greenish colour, imitating the splendor of silver. We wish to see a full account of this gem from India, or Britain, where alone the proper intelligence is received.

Russia produces no true diamond yet discovered, although a remarkably hard topaz, found in the mountain Adunshollo, in Dauria, goes by the name of Siberian diamond. None have yet been found in Scotland. That called the *Benacbie* diamond, is only the water sapphire, which is indeed a beautiful gem.

Value, Rarity, and Use.

The value of the rough diamond is equal to the square of their weight in carats multiplied by two guineas. The value of cut diamonds is equal to the square of double their weight multiplied by two guineas; and those of an extraordinary lustre, by three. Cutting costs L. 3, 15s. *per* carat; and they lose at least one half of their weight especially if small. Diamonds with a blemish of any kind, lose often half their value. This gem is not worth cutting under one pound the carat.

N. B. A carat is four grains, jewellers weight; but five such grains only make four Troy; so that an ounce Troy, which is only of 480 grains Troy, contains 159 carats.

To be continued.

A Character.

However much prudence may be despised by those whose feelings are of a warm nature, yet I must say it becomes one of the most necessary principles of conduct in a world where fraud and deceit too often assume the appearance of innocence and simplicity.

Flippant is allowed to possess good nature, and in some cases he may be called generous; yet with these two good qualities he is so destitute of prudence, that he falls into numberless mistakes, for which every one must blame him.

His profession led him into genteel company, and his fondness for such society made him too often join in parties of pleasure which materially hurt his interest and reputation. He had few resolutions of his own, and whenever any entertainment was proposed, however inconvenient for him to attend, his good nature always nodded assent.

He may be pronounced *selfish*, I believe, in the whole of his propensities to benevolence; for he never assisted an object without they possessed some attractions to engage his fancy. Those who were allowed by all to be worthy of commiseration, hardly could obtain an audience of him if they had not that power.

But his fanciful objects could carry him any length. His purse and credit were always open to them; and he has now reduced himself to be the laughing-stock of those whom he assisted.

He scarcely can be called an amiable character who involves an aged father in difficulties, and hurts the interest of industrious tradesmen to support his extravagance.

ODE FOR THE NEW YEAR, 1793.

BY HENRY JAMES PYE, ESQ. POET LAUREAT.

I.

Not with more joy from desert ſhades,
Where prowl untam'd the ſavage train,
From pathleſs muirs and barren glades,
Sad deſolation's gloomy reign,
Averted, bends the weary eye
To ſeats of rural induſtry,
Where harveſts wave in yellow pride,
Where ſpreads the fertile champain wide,
The lucid ſtream, while commerce leads
Through peopled towns and laughing meads,
Than turns the mind from ſcenes of woe,
Where ceaſeleſs tears of anguiſh flow,
Where anarchy's inſatiate brood
Their horrid footſteps mark with blood.
To ſhores where temp'rate freedom reigns,
Where peace and order bleſs the plains;
Where men the ſov'reign of their choice obey,
Where Britain's grateful ſons exult in George's ſway.

II.

Yet Albion ne'er with ſelfiſh aim
To her own race her care confines,
On all, the ſacred gift who claim,
The golden beam of freedom ſhines.
Sad out-caſt from his native ſhore,
The wretched exile wafted o'er,
Feels pity's lenient hand aſſuage
The wounds of faction's cruel rage;
Her laws, to all protective, yield
Security's impartial ſhield;
Who breathes her air, breathes pureſt liberty,
Gaunt ſlavery flies the coaſt, who treads her ſoil is free.

III.

Ambition's clarion has not charm'd
Her dauntleſs legions to the war;
Nor have her ſons by fury arm'd,
Follow'd oppreſſion's iron car;
Though prompt at honour's call to brave
The hoſtile clime, the adverſe wave,
Their thunder 'neath the burning zone,
Shook the proud deſpot on his throne;
Yet while aloft in orient ſkies,
Conqueſt's triumphant banner flies;
The generous victor bids the conflict ceaſe,
And 'midſt his laurels twines the noble wreaths of peace.

VI.

Blest peace! O may thy radiance mild
Beam kindly on the op'ning year!
Yet should with frantic vengeance wild,
The fiends of discord urge their rash career,
Nor cold in freedom's sacred cause,
Nor slow to guard her holy laws,
Faithful to him their hearts approve,
The monarch they revere, the man they love;
Britannia's sons shall arm with patriot zeal,
Their prince's cause their own, his rights the general weal.

ADDRESS TO THE EVENING STAR.

Lucid lamp of ray serene,
Fav'rite star of beauty's queen,
Splendid glory of the night,
Spreading through the gloom delight;

Common stars thy beams out-shine,
More than argent Cynthia's thine;
Guide me through yon lonely glade,
To my fair, my lovely maid;

Where the jocund train advance,
Tripping in the sprightly dance;
Cynthia soon will leave the sky,
May thy beams her light supply!

I ne'er robb'd of lambs the fold,
Nor the traveller of gold:
Love's my crime,—O! lend thy ray,
Guide a lover on his way!
May the star of Venus prove
Friendly to the swains that love.

Mark Anthony.

TRUE COURAGE.

To struggle with misfortune's flood,
Whilst loud the tempest blows,
Bespeaks a heart resolv'd and good,
Where many a virtue glows.

Thus whilst by misery we are tried,
True worth we may employ;
He who the storm has ne'er defy'd,
The calm can scarce enjoy.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE FROM RUSSIA BY ARCTICUS.

For the Bee.

Purifying water.

Mr Lovitz, an able chemist, has found, that, by the simple admixture of a tenth part of pounded charcoal, to the most putrid water, it becomes instantly sweet and potable, as if just taken from the river. The same simple proceſs likewise sweetens, and even renders white and clear, foul and rancid oil; and removes the burnt diſsagreeable taste to which corn spirits are subject, when not distilled with care, as is often the case in Ruſsia, where it is only made for the boors.

These experiments we have seen made by Mr Lovitz at the Economical Society of St Peterſburgh.

I am of opinion that the ingenious author is mistaken in his expectation of his discovery being a great object for navigators; as, from the extreme lightneſs of charcoal, the quantity neceſsary for sweetening a given quantity of water, will occupy nearly as much room as that fluid itself; at the same time that the quality of water is seldom a serious complaint on board a ſhip, whatever it may appear to people on ſhore, providing they have abundance of it; as exposing it to the air, for sometime, lets escape the fetid inflammable gas, generated whilst ſhut up in the hold, and renders it very drinkable to seafaring men accustomed to its taste.

However, the discovery opens a large field, and promiſes to be useful in many respects; at the same time that it may furniſh matter of speculation to natural philoſophers, who suppose *phlogiston*, of which charcoal contains so large a portion, is a principal agent of putridity, whilst here it acts as an antiseptic; poſsibly from its affinity to

that very exploded principle. The new doctrine of hydrogene, will explain, without doubt, that extraordinary phenomenon in an easy manner.

I am curious to hear the opinion my old correspondent Dr Priestly on this discovery, to whom I communicated it some time ago; but suppose he is too much occupied with other matters to pay his wonted attention to physics *.

* The substance of the foregoing intelligence respecting charcoal, has been pretty generally known in Britain for some time past; but it is only of late that a very elegant mode of effecting this chemical process has been discovered, which, on account of its simplicity and conveniency, reflects honour on the discoverer, and deserves to be very generally known. This consists in simply ordering the casks to be a little more scorched by the cooper than is usual, when he heats them to make the staves bend; so as to line the whole inside with a thin but uniform coat of charred wood; which being left unscraped, and the ends of the barrel also charred in the same manner within, the whole cask forms an impenetrable coat of charcoal, within which, it is said, the water can be kept perfectly sweet and limpid for any length of time.

Charcoal may thus be applied to many valuable purposes; for from this and some other late experiments, there is great reason to believe that charcoal is one of the most active chemical agents in the universe. In the purification of spirits it is much more powerful than any other; and there is great reason to believe that by its means the peculiar flavour of most spirits may be quite taken off, or so much weakened as to render them capable of being impregnated with any other flavour wanted; so that in the hands of a skilful rectifier of spirits, it must become a most valuable ingredient.

In the edulcoration of oil, it also promises to be of singular utility; but experiments are here wanting.

In the refining and purifying saccharine juices, it also may be of singular utility. A French chemical economist communicates the following mode of converting honey, either into a sugary syrup, or into grained sugar itself, which he says poſſeſſes all the qualities, as well as the taste of sugar, without the smallest flavour of honey.

Receipt for converting honey into sugar or saccharine syrup.

"Put a little charcoal in the honey, heat it gently till it comes to boil; stir it well, and keep it simmering for some time; skim off the froth

Inflammable phosphoric gas.

Mr Lovitz mentioned the other day to your correspondent, another discovery which was new to him, though poſsibly known on your side the water, *viz.*

That pounded regulus of antimony thrown into dephlogisticated muriatic gas, takes fire. Count Sternberg, an Austrian nobleman now here on his travels, has discovered a species of gas, which likewise takes fire without the contact of any ignited substance; but the circumstance most remarkable in this discovery, is, that a *diamond* thrown into it is perfectly consumed. This experiment he will probably repeat here before the empreſs, as he has formerly done before his own sovereign, the emperor, at his coronation. The gas took fire, he says, on drawing out the glaſs stopper, from its being heated by holding the bottle long in his hand, and almost burnt his hands; but still the experiment succeeded, and the *diamond* was perfectly consumed in the burning gas *. What a strong confirmation of what was so long laughed at as a bold hazarded aſsertion of the great Sir Isaac Newton, *that a diamond was only a concrete phlogiston!* But indeed another great genius, Bergman, had already

that comes to the top; pour it into a proper veſsel; allow it gradually to cool. The syrup becomes a pure colourleſs syrup, quite divested of the taste of honey, like syrup of sugar. If grained sugar be wanted, it requiers only to be boiled till the water be evaporated. He does not mention if lime water be neceſsary."

Many other uses may be made of charcoal, particularly in the very difficult proceſs of discharging colours; but here our experiments are few. *Edit.*

* I suspect there is here a little inaccuracy. In Crell's annals of chemistry, it is said the diamond has been consumed by inflammable gas; which was set on fire by introducing in the bottle that contained it, the end of a wire heated red hot. *Edit.*

done his opinion justice; and ſhown the diamond to be a combuſtible body. Nay mineralogiſts had already acknowledged the fact in a laughable manner, by degrading this firſt and moſt valuable of all the precious ſtones from its rank as a gem, and placed it amongſt the ſulphurs, &c. as an inflammable ſubſtance. You will find that I have taken the liberty in my table of precious ſtones, to bring it back again to the head of the claſs of gems; which it certainly merits, from its hardneſs, brilliancy, and value, whatever may be its component parts. I imagine that, in the jargon of new French chemiſtry, this will be called an *earth and oxigene.*

CIRCULAR.

Sir John Sinclair preſents his compliments. He hopes that his former communications reſpecting the ſtatiſtical account of Scotland, have been received. It is earneſtly requeſted, that ſuch of the clergy as have not yet tranſmitted their reſpective accounts, will loſe no time in ſending them; the public at large being extremely anxious to have this work brought to a concluſion as quickly as poſſible, as the advantages of which it may be productive, cannot be thoroughly known or felt, until it is completed. Eight volumes, which will contain in all about five hundred pariſhes, will be publiſhed in the courſe of January, 1793; and the remainder of the work, if the neceſſary materials come in, might be finiſhed ſoon after the meeting of the enſuing General Aſſembly, when, it is hoped, that not a ſingle account will be wanting.

The clergy will hear with ſatisfaction, that not only in England, but in every part of the continent, the higheſt eulogiums have been beſtowed on the zeal, talents, and induſtry, they have diſplayed, in carrying on this

great undertaking; which, in the opinion of every unprejudiced person, will be of as much consequence to other countries, as even to Scotland.

London,
December 28. 1792.

N. B. Nothing could be more disagreeable to Sir John Sinclair, than to be under the neceſsity of applying to any other person, than the minister of the pariſh, for the statistical account of it; particularly, as it might tend to leſsen the high reputation which the clergy have already so deservedly acquired by their statistical exertions. He hopes, therefore, that your aſsistance will not be wanting a moment longer than is absolutely neceſsary; and he ſhould be glad to be favoured with your account, directed to him at London, in packets not exceeding two ounces in weight, as speedily as poſsible. It is not in his power, during the sitting of parliament, to attend to the printing of the different returns; but he wiſhes to have the satisfaction of reading them over before they are sent to the preſs; and many respectable literary characters in the church (in particular those who have taken an active part in establiſhing the society for the benefit of the sons of the clergy) have undertaken the trouble of revising the preſs at Edinburgh, during his absence.

He has the pleasure of adding, that there is the proſpect of a fund being soon establiſhed for the Daughters as well as the Sons of the clergy; and though the clergy engaged in this important work without any interested motives, it cannot be an unpleasing circumstance, that their labours are likely to meet with such solid marks of public approbation, and will probably be productive, not only of personal credit to each individual, but of beneficial consequences to the order in general.

It need scarcely be added, that the merit which they have already acquired by their statistical exertions, must very materially contribute to the success of the application now in agitation for the augmentation of the stipends of the clergy. It is indeed an unfortunate circumstance, that the statistical account of Scotland was not completed previous to such an application. However, the greater number of accounts that are received and printed, before that question comes on, the better chance there is for success; and it is to be hoped, that at least ten volumes, containing from six to seven hundred parishes, will be published before the month of April, when that business will, in all probability, come under discussion.

Sir John Sinclair begs to hear from every minister, who has not yet written him, when his account may be expected. He will have the honour of attending the ensuing General Assembly, when he hopes some plan will be formed for having, in each parish, a copy of the work. In the concluding volume, every necessary correction which the clergy will take the trouble of pointing out, shall be attended to and any additional information will be inserted, that is judged in any respect of importance.

ANECDOTE.

A dissipated nobleman, in the time of Henry viii. having sold a manor of an hundred tenements, came laughing into court with a new suit, saying, "Am not I a great man who can bear an hundred houses on my back?" which cardinal Wolsey (who was the son of a butcher at Ipswich) hearing, exclaimed, 'You might have better employed the money in paying your debts.' "Indeed my lord," replied the nobleman, "you say well; my father owed you three halfpence for a calfs head; so here it is."

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23. 1793.

ON THE SWORD FISH.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

IF the following ſhort account of that remarkable animal, the broad finned ſword fiſh, merits your approbation, I would be glad if you would give it a place in your excellent miſcellany.

Amongſt all the voracious animals that inhabit the Indian and Pacific Oceans, this is the moſt dreadful. From the appearance of the long and ſharp pointed proceſs of the head, it appears to be very nearly allied to the ſword fiſh, ſo well known to naturaliſts. It differs, however, in many particulars, and is plainly a different ſpecies. Its uſual length is twenty feet; but it is often found longer. The firſt deſcription we have of it, is in Marcgrave's Hiſtory of Brazil. The general colour of the fiſh, is a ſilvery bluiſh white, except on the upper part of the back. The head and the tail are of a deep brown. The back fin is of a pale brown, finely ſpotted with marks of deep black; the ſkin is quite ſmooth and has no ſcaly appearance. Two or three

years ago, a letter was sent to the president of the Royal Society of London, from the captain of an East Indiaman, with an account of the remarkable strength which this fish poſseſses. The bottom of his ſhip having been pierced completely through by a fiſh of this species, and the fiſh killed by the violence of the ſhock. It was singularly lucky for the veſsel, that the fiſh was killed, otherwise, if it had been enabled to withdraw its snout, the veſsel would have inevitably sunk. The wood, together with the snout or sword of the fiſh, embedded in it, is preserved in the Britiſh museum. This fiſh is not confined to the Brasilean and East Indian seas, but is also found in the northern ocean. It is a great enemy to whales, with which it has frequent combats. What is very remarkable, Pliny mentions the circumstance of their transfixing veſsels, which has been regarded as one of those exaggerations so frequent in the works of the ancients. P. H. N.

N. B. Mr Editor, by next week, I will send you a painting and description of a very rare bird, the American ostrich *.

THE TRAVELLER. No. V.

OBSERVATIONS AND OPINIONS OF J. W. SPENCER.

Continued from vol. xii. *p.* 325.

Doncaster, England.

I WAS just setting out from Ferrybridge yesterday afternoon, when a chaise driver came and told me

* The Editor will be much obliged to this correspondent for the account here promised, with his first convenience.

that he had an empty chaise to take to Doncaster, and that, if I was going that way, I might have a ride upon very easy terms. I asked him what his fare was;—he said I had the appearance of a gentleman, and that he would leave it to myself. Of a gentleman! I replied;—how came you to imagine that any gentleman would bribe a servant to cheat his master? I said this surlily, and the man went away. He had scarcely quitted me, when I bethought myself that I would very likely see something new if I accepted his offer; so I called him back, and promised to go. He overtook me before I got out of the town, and I stepped into the chaise. Before we had gone half a mile, we came up with a woman who had a child in her arms; and a little way after, with a soldier who was on furlough, going to see his relations at Grantham. They were both admitted into the carriage. How would I have looked; or what could I have said, if the owner of the chaise had met me in this awkward situation? Thou, my dear fellow! thou, whose generous soul never stooped to do a mean action, must be a stranger to such feelings as mine were. However, if contempt of myself, and numberless resolutions never to offend again in that way, can atone for my *faux pas*, I owe nothing on that score.

The woman left us at *Robin Hood's well*, half way to Doncaster. The driver not daring to carry us into town, dropped the soldier and me at a small public house at the west end of the bridge. He said I might lodge there very well; told the landlord I was a mighty quiet civil gentleman; and desired he

would take good care of me. The soldier joined in recommending the house, and I was prevailed on.

Squire C——'s servants were here spending the evening, after a remarkably long hare chace, which they talked over an hundred times with our host, who in his younger days, had been huntsman to the duke of Kingston. We joined liquors with them, and the pot went briſkly round.

It has ever been the laudable practice of landlords of this claſs, to sit down with their guests, to torment them with their impertinence, and to do all in their power to quicken the circulation of the tankard. When it becomes empty, which, as they are frequently bleſsed with capacious bellies, generally happens in their hands, they fill it without being desired, and chalk it down with great *sang froid*. Wide as the word is, I'll venture to say, that there is not in all England, a man of the profeſsion better versed in these little arts, or who can empty a tankard with more dispatch, or fill it with a better grace, than this same Tom Shirley near the bridge of Doncaster.

When the servants were to depart, it became neceſsary to count our scores. The soldier pulled out his purse;—it might contain about a crown. I saw that his ſhare would sit heavy on him; and I told the landlord that we would pay our part with our bill in the morning. The servants left us, and Shirley preſsed them to take his pot after they were on foot. The soldier and I supped together, and the landlord helped off with our ale. He has done it so often, and does it with so much unconcern, that I dare say he thinks there is nothing amiſs in it, if he

thinks at all about the matter. I ordered a little punch, and made the soldier drink with me. The fellow was extremely modest and unassuming. I saw he was uneasy; and being afraid that he would not sleep well with the thoughts of the bill to discharge in the morning, I called for it now and paid the whole. He did not say much, but his looks thanked me.

At the Revolution the pay of our armies was settled at what it is at present. As refinement and luxury of all kinds have greatly increased since that; and as all ranks have changed their way of living; and the reward of labour has been nearly doubled; ought not the pay of our soldiers to be increased? There is no necessity for increasing the salary of any office, while fit persons are willing to discharge its duties upon the old terms. If exciseable commodities, and a few other articles, are dearer, some are cheaper; the price of the necessaries of life is no higher; and officers and soldiers would find their pay fully sufficient for their maintenance, would they live as their predecessors did an hundred years ago*. In most other cases, the ability to support it has preceded the alteration in the mode of living; and ensigns and lieutenants have themselves to blame for living with men of fortune, where their daily pay is barely enough to procure them a comfortable dinner.

While we were at breakfast next morning, the driver called to acquaint us that the coach had come in empty, and that we might go a stage or two with him. I positively refused to go; but the soldier

* This is a very disputable assertion. *Edit.*

not being so scrupulous, made a bargain upon the spot, and went away. In half an hour he returned with the sad news that he had been disappointed of his ride by one of the proprietors arriving from the country in a post chaise, and taking a seat to Barnaby Moor. His road and mine lay together. He had come back to walk with me, and offered to carry my ſhirts. I liked him for his gratitude.

Boroughbridge.

I had walked from North Allerton, and was much fatigued. I went into the Angel inn, called the waiter, and aſked for a room. The fellow came ſlowly, wiping a glaſs all the way. He looked earneſtly at me, and turning half round, "I have no rooms, (he ſaid,) but if you please, Sir, I will ſhow you into the kitchen." Had I taken half a ſecond to conſider of it, I would have had no objection to the propoſal. It was the folks in the kitchen I wanted to ſee and converſe with. But ſuch is the difference between going into a kitchen, and being ſhown into one, that my pride got up in a moment, and I walked off.

When he was a young man, lord G———ne, on his way to and from London, was wont to ride on the top of the ſtage coach, in order to have a better view of the country, and to drink his bottle of claret at dinner and ſupper. This made folks wonder. Had his deſign been like mine, to ſee the manners of the lower ranks, he would have come better to his purpoſe by calling for a pot of ale.

I amuſed myſelf in the church yard till it was almoſt dark, when I went to the King's Arms inn,

walked into the kitchen without ceremony, sat me down, and called for a pint of ale. A miller, two graziers, and a butcher, were sitting drinking. I took up a pipe, and listened to their conversation. I soon joined them, at which they expreſsed much satisfaction; and we were going to be very merry, when the landlord came down, and politely inquired what I would choose for supper, and desired me to walk into a parlour where there was a fire.——'Tis flattering to be thus distinguiſhed when unknown. I thought it a debt due entirely to myself, independent of every extrinsic circumstance, and I was mortified when at breakfast next morning with the hoſtess, I learned that I owed it to my linen. Soon after I came in, I gave my two ſhirts, which had been waſhed the evening before, to the chamber maid to be better dried. She seeing them to be very fine linen, had carried them to her miſtreſs, who, noticing the marking, aſked to whom they belonged. The girl (a very pretty one by the bye) told, and was sent to view me more narrowly. Upon her report the innkeeper came in person, and took that notice of me I have just mentioned. I begged of him to sit down for a little. The miller led him aside, and they whispered together.—I hate to be gazed at; and the ale being out, and the miller becoming very inquisitive, I suffered myself to be ſhown into a parlour, and invited the landlord to sup with me. He excused himself as his wife was quite alone; so I aſked her too.

I dare say travellers among the ancient Greeks and Romans, who had no public inns, went to pri-

vate houses without any of those unpleasant feelings that a modern would experience in such a situation. From Lot and Abraham entertaining the angels, it appears that they were unknown in eastern countries too, in these early times; unleſs we suppose them to have been innkeepers, which is an opinion not advanced by any commentator; at least as far as I know. W. E.

AN ANECDOTE.

Some time after the conclusion of the late war, a young American was present in a Britiſh playhouse, where an interlude was performed in ridicule of his countrymen. A number of American officers being introduced in tattered uniforms, and barefoot, the question was put to them severally, "What was your trade before you entered into the army?" One answered a taylor, another a cobler, &c. The wit of the piece was to banter them for not keeping themselves clothed and ſhod; but before that could be expreſsed, the American exclaimed from the gallery, "Great Britain beaten by taylors and coblers! Huzza!" Even the prime minister, who was present, could not help smiling amidst a general peal of laughter.

Another.

A coxcomb aſked a stuttering barber's boy, "Did you ever ſhave a monkey?" 'No, Sir, (said the boy,) but if you will s-s-s-sit down, I'll t-t-t-try.'

A TABLE OF GEMS CONTINUED.

Claſs second.

THE RUBY.

The CARBUNCULUS of the ancients.

HARDNESS from 17 to 13; SPECIFIC GRAVITY from 4.2 to 3.4.

Varieties.

The DEEP RED or oriental. [The PURPLE RED oriental of the jewellers, is the carbunculus of Pliny.] PALE RED. SPINEL, a bright red. BALLAS, pale violet red. RUBICEL, rediſh yellow.

Analyſis.

* DEEP RED, H 17; Sp Gr 4.2; Arg 40; Sil 39; Cal m 9; Ir 10.*
* PALE RED, H 16; Sp Gr 3.5.
SPINEL, H 13; Sp Gr 3.4.

Form.

The ruby is generally octoedral, but ſometimes it is found in irregular hexagons. Wallerius and Rome de Lisle aſsert that the best rubies, ſapphires, and topazes, are but the same stone, of different colours, a fact which the similitude of their component parts seems to confirm, as well as their crystallization, from which alone, the above two writers formed their opinions. The Siberian aqua marine offers a strong fact on their side; as we have it of a green, a blue, and a yellow colour, all equally brilliant

* Bergman.

and fine. Rubies are made artificially, by gradually heating, in a crucible covered with wood aſhes, the Brazil topaz till red hot, which gives it a fine ruby colour.

Structure, Properties, &c.

Texture laminar. Electric on friction. The true ruby does not loſe its colour in the fire, although the baſtard or rubicel is ſaid to loſe it. It does not melt *per ſe*, even in the focus of a large burning glaſs, as authors aſſert; but we ſuppoſe they were unacquainted with the power of Mr Parken's lens, which vitrifies, and even calcines the ruby. It melts with dephlogiſticated air, even when only uſed with a blow pipe, as Dr Franklin demonſtrated. Borax and microcoſmic ſalt effect its fuſion.

Where found.

The true ruby is found in the Eaſt Indies and Brazil, ſometimes in a red ſand of certain rivers, ſometimes adhering to red coloured rocks, and ſometimes in a hard green clay. The ſpinel, ballas, and rubicel, are found in Brazil, Hungary, Silesia, and Bohemia. The carbuncle is found in great plenty on the ſea ſhore near Ely in Fifeſhire, Scotland. There is alſo a ſtone which comes near to the ruby found near Portſoy, Banffſhire, and at Inverary, Argyleſhire, Scotland.

Largeſt.

The largeſt ruby was in the poſſeſſion of the Great Mogul, of a round form, weighing about two ounces and

a half. He had about 108 more rubies in his throne, from 100 to 200 carats each, before the invasion of Nadir Shah, or Couli Khan. Ruſsia has as yet discovered no rubies in Siberia, which produces so many other gems.

Value and Rarity.

A ruby of one carat, is worth ten guineas; one of two carats, forty guineas; one of three carats, 150 guineas; and those of six carats above 1000 guineas.

N. B. A ruby above three carats is worth more than a diamond of the same weight. *Ballas* worth 3s. *per* carat. *Spinel*, half as much as a diamond.

Claſs third.

SAPPHIRE.

The SAPPHIRUS of the ancients.

HARDNESS from 17 to 16; SPECIFIC GRAVITY from 4,7 to 3,8.

Varieties.

DEEP BLUE, PALE BLUE, and MILKY BLUE like the OPAL.

Analysis.

* DEEP BLUE, H 16; Sp Gr 3,8; Arg 58; Sil 35; Cal 5; Ir 2.*
* PALER BLUE, H 17; Sp Gr 3,8.
* WATER SAPPHIRE, H 17.
PUY SAPPHIRE, Sp Gr 4,7.

Form.

The sapphire is commonly in two oblong hexagon pyramids, joined at their base, and pointed at top; sometimes alſo in hexagonal columns.

* Bergman.

Structure, Properties, &c.

Texture laminar. Electric on friction. The oriental does not lose its colour in the fire, like the softer and inferior sorts; nay, even those of Puy, in Auvergne, and of the Brazils, although in every other respect of hardneſs, form, and specific gravity, they equal the oriental, do not preserve their colour in the fire. It does not melt *per se*, but is affected by the same fluxes as the ruby. The sapphire is preferable to the ruby for jewelling clock work, from its equal hardneſs, a quality not to be found with certainty in most of the other varieties except the oriental.

Largest.

Authors make mention of no remarkable sapphire either for size or value, except one belonging to the king of France, with a strip of fine yellow topaz in the middle. This is another proof of Rome de Lisle's hypothesis mentioned in the article ruby.

Where found.

The finest sapphires, like most of the gems, come from the East Indies. Ruſsia does not produce the sapphire. In Scotland, they are found of a hardneſs and lustre equal to the oriental, both light and deep coloured, at Benachie, and Invercauld, Aberdeenſhire, Portsoy in Banffshire, and many other places. Mr Deuchar, seal engraver in Edinburgh, has in his poſseſsion, a beautiful sapphire, which was found in a double crystal. On one of these is cut a head, which was effected with the greatest difficulty, on account of its hardneſs; the other is cut into facets, and has a fine water, and great brilliancy.

How valued.

A fine sapphire of ten carats, L. 50. One of twenty, L. 200.

Under ten carats it may be valued by multiplying the carat at 10s. 6d. into the square of its weight.

Class fourth.

TOPAZ.

The CHRYSOLITHUS of the ancients, according to Pliny.

HARDNESS from 15 to 11; SPECIFIC GRAVITY 4,2 to 3,8.

Varieties.

GOLD COLOUR, ORANGE, YELLOW, PALE YELLOW, WHITE and SMOKY.

Analysis.

YELLOW SAFFRON, H 15; Sp Gr 4,2; Arg 43; Sil 21; Cal 20; Ir 18.
* WHITISH, H 14; Sp Gr 3,5.
BOHEMIAN, H 11; Sp Gr 2,8.
SAXON TOPAZ, Sp Gr 4,2; Arg 46; Sil 39; Cal 8; Ir 6 †.

Form.

The topaz is commonly in prisms of six or eight sides; or in parallelopipedal or cubic forms; sometimes striated. They are terminated by two tetrapedal pyramids with smooth triangular faces.

Structure, Properties, &c.

The texture is laminar. Electric on friction. The occidental are said to lose their colour in the fire; and the Brazil topaz to acquire a fine ruby colour, as mentioned in the article ruby. It does not melt *per se*; but borax and microcosmic salt promote its fusion.

* Achard. † Bergman.

Where found.

They are found in India, Pegu, Ceylon, Arabia, Egypt, and Brazil. These are said to equal the ruby and sapphire in every respect; and differ from them only in colour. Occidental are found in Saxony and Siberia, as hard as the oriental; in Bohemia, Scotland, &c. Ruſsia produces a variety; but the best are found in the mountain Adunſhollo, near the river Onon, in Dauria; particularly the remarkable hard quadrangular species,—certainly one of the best in Europe. It is distinguiſhed among the Ruſsian stones in having the sides of the prisms poliſhed like glaſs, and presenting, in some cut specimens, the appearance and texture of the Aventurine. As it merits to be analysed, the author has sent a fine prism to an able philosopher for that purpose. In Scotland the topaz is found in Strathspey, and Invercauld Aberdeenſhire; Caringoram, isle of Arran, Buteſhire, &c.

Largest.

The largest rough one is in the poſseſsion of the prince of Orange. It is an oval oriental topaz, seven inches long. Cut,—the Great Mogul poſseſses one of 157 carats; and a jeweller in St Peterſburg, one of a square form, two inches and a half, by two and one third thick.

How valued.

The oriental topaz is valued by multiplying the square of its weight by fifteen or sixteen ſhillings. The occidental by five or six ſhillings.

Claſs fifth.

THE HYACINTH.

HARDNESS 15; SPECIFIC GRAVITY 2,8.

Varieties.

YELLOWISH RED, CHRYSOLETRE, AMBER COLOUR, ORANGE ORIENTAL, WHITE.

Analysis.

REDISH YELLOW, H15.

CHRYSOLETRE.

ORANGE ORIENTAL, Sp Gr 2,8; Arg 40; Sil 25; Cal 20; Ir 53 *.

WHITE cruciform Saxon, Arg 20; Sil 44; Bar 2,4 †.

Form.

The form of the hyacinth is commonly that of a prism, with five, six, seven, or eight sides, pointed at both ends, with four facets; but sometimes it is found in the globular polygon form of the garnet, only with its angles more obtuse. There are two sorts of gems sold by jewellers as hyacinths; the first is the true one, very hard and brilliant, which seems only a variety of the topaz, higher coloured, or more loaded with iron, as their analysis demonstrates. The other a garnet of the hyacinth colour, but inferior in lustre and hardneſs.

Structure, Properties, &c.

The texture is laminar. Electric on friction. It either becomes paler, or loses its colour altogether, in the fire. Melts *per se* in a wind furnace in two hours, according to Mr Achard. The spurious hya-

* Bergman. † Born.

cinth or garnet, melts readily into a slag, in a common furnace, a sufficient distinction between them.

Where found.

They are found in Arabia, Calicut, and Cambaya. The occidental in Poland, Bohemia, and Saxony. The hyacinth garnet, in Spain and Groenland. Russia produces also this gem in the mountain Adunshollo in Dauria, so fertile in precious stones. Born has just given us a new species of cruciform white hyacinth, found in Saxony. The chrysoletre is a variety of the hyacinth, (some say a spurious one,) so called from its resemblance to amber.

How valued.

Wallerius values the oriental hyacinth at from twenty to fifty dollars *per* carat, according to lustre, colour, &c

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HINTS ON MACHINERY.

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I was much pleased with your ingenious explication of the chain with buckets*, to the purpose of creating circular motion, where there is an high fall of a small rill of water. I was only astonished (as we always are upon the discovery of things that on explication appear obvious) how so simple a contrivance should so long have escaped observation; and this I conceive to be the highest commendation that can be bestowed on any new invention.

Your paper suggested several thoughts to me which I have thrown together;—if you reckon them worth insertion, you are welcome to them. I am

* Bee, vol. xi. p 150.

but a novice in mechanics, and I could not on my own judgement say whether they are so or not.

From what you have observed, I am convinced that the impetus of water is a moving power of little importance in proportion to its weight: and of the water wheels now in use I therefore conclude, that the bucket wheel gives more force from equal quantities of water paſsing in equal times. Of the bucket wheels, too, I would prefer those which are so constructed as to admit the water immediately into the bucket which is in the direction of the horizontal diameter of the wheel, where its weight must have most energy, in virtue of the longest lever. I think, however, I have remarked, in some overſhot bucket wheels, that the water is immediately admitted into that bucket which has just paſsed the perpendicular of the wheel. Perhaps an idea is entertained of thereby accumulating more water upon the descending side of the wheel; though this conception must certainly be erroneous, as will evidently appear from this simple consideration, that, of neceſsity, every perpendicular, revolving in a circle, must become an horizontal in turning round one quarter of the periphery of the circle. Supposing, then, the buckets to stand perpendicular when they are filled, they must gradually slant towards an horizontal direction, and consequently gradually empty themselves as they turn round, so as to become horizontal, and consequently empty, by the time they have traversed the quadrant of the circle. It therefore appears to me impoſsible, by any contrivance, to load with water more than one quarter of the cir-

cumference of the wheel at one time. This being admitted, it must certainly be the best mode to have the filled buckets always at the horizontal diameter, where their weight has most force, and where they will continue most full, in proportion as their position is most favourable for energy; rather than to have them filled where their weight has least force, with their weight gradually diminiſhing, in proportion as they come into succeſsive positions where their weight would have been of more avail.

In every mode of construction of wheels with buckets, it is, however, evident, that there must be a considerable waste of the power of the water paſsing in a given time. 1*st*, In the loſs of the water, from the buckets emptying themselves, in proportion as they recede from their perpendicular to their horizontal direction. 2*d*, In the diminiſhed action of the water which remains in the buckets, in proportion as they are nearer to the perpendicular than to the horizontal diameter of the wheel. These two circumstances *of inaptitude to the production of the full effect of the given water*, are common to every used species of the bucket wheel; and where the water is conducted upon the wheel by a trough, there is a *third* loſs of such water as paſses through the interstice, which must neceſsarily be left, to allow of the motion betwixt the trough and the wheel.

In your most ingenious contrivance of the chain with buckets, none of these loſses are sustained. The whole water that paſses is brought to act upon the chain; except the inconsiderable spurt by the water daſhing upon the thin edge of the bucket

which comes in to be filled; and this action is uniformly directed to the place where its energy is greatest. The only loſs of power is that which arises from the friction of the chain upon the wheels, at the top and bottom of the fall of water*; and this I am convinced would be trifling in comparison of the gain in every other respect. I doubt not but that by interposing your chain betwixt the water and the wheel, more force might be obtained than by even the bucket wheels in use, in any given situation where such wheels are used. As to the situation of small rills and high falls, undoubtedly a very great moving power may be commanded by your contrivance, where none could be obtained by the methods which have hitherto been devised.

I waited with impatience for the farther suggestions you promised upon the mode of applying the power of water where there is a current merely, but no fall, and, mean while, was forming my own conjectures upon the subject. Your proposal did not occur to me, though I am convinced it would answer in the case of rivers, in flat countries, as you suggest, and streams from lochs, which are not subject to sudden rises; and I doubt not but the immense force procured as an operating power, might compensate the expence of such extensive machine-

* The ingenious writer, by looking back to the plate, vol. xi. p. 250. will observe that there can be no friction of the kind he here mentions, owing to the joints of the chain being of the same length with the distance between the bars of the wheels; so that the chain never slips upon it. The small friction that will arise from the bending of these joints, deserves, in *practice*, to be considered as nothing. *Edit.*

ry. What occurred to me was but a very humble proposal in comparison. It was, merely to apply to the water wheel the principle commonly adopted by those who have attempted the *perpetuum mobile* *, which I shall endeavour to explain.

Let the water, then, be conducted to the wheel by a conduit, provided with a sluice, that you may always have it in a regulated quantity. Let your wheel be made of a smaller diameter; but let the *awes*, as they are vulgarly named, or float boards, be fixed upon arms that are fixed into the wheel, of two, three, or four feet in length.

Let these arms be provided, each with two or three joints †, which might open towards the water

* The only principle upon which I have had occasion to see the *perpetuum mobile* attempted, is *the recurring overbalance of the descending side of the vertical wheels*; and this endeavoured to be effected by hollow tubes in the wheel, extending as radii from the center to the circumference, in which are inserted cylinders of wood, which project outwards, or retire in the descent and ascent of the wheel; or else moveable balls, or quicksilver, are inclosed in the tubes for a similar purpose.

† An intelligent farmer of my acquaintance tried the experiment of flying, by means of canvas wings stretched upon wooden ribs, provided with joints of this kind, which could shut close and open to the straight, like a man's hand. In raising the wings, they shut close, so as to meet with no resistance from the air. In giving the stroke, they expanded to a large surface. He succeeded so far as to raise himself off from the ground by a stroke of the wings, but he came down always before he could fetch a second. Oars might be constructed to advantage in this way. They would operate like the webbed feet of water fowls, without the necessity of raising them from the denser medium to the more rare, to diminish the resistance in fetching the stroke. A boat might be constructed in which a man might stand upright, the boat entirely under water, and the man sunk breast deep. He might work it in any direction with oars which would emit no sound, nor be visible to the eye; a narrow wooden trough might be fastened to his breast, to push before him, where he might deposit his

as the wheel descends, admitting the arms to stretch out to their full length, but not to bend backwards; and closing so as to admit the arms to fall close upon the wheel on the ascending side. It is evident upon this construction, that, when the wheel is put in motion, the arms upon the descending side will begin to fly out from the time they pass over the top of the wheel; that they will be stretched out at full length when they reach its horizontal diameter; and continue so till the awes, or float boards, have received their stroke from the water; that on rising from the water they will bend inwards upon the rim of the wheel, till they arrive at the top, when they will again begin to fly out. The arms on the upper quadrant of the descending side, contained between the vertex and horizontal diameter of the wheel, would be always found in various stages of flying out *; and the arms on the opposite quadrant on the ascending side, contained betwixt the bottom and horizontal diameter of the wheel, would be retiring inward in the same proportion; so that these two opposite quarters of the wheel would be exactly equipoised. But in the undermost quadrant on the descending side, the arms would be all stretched to their full length; and in the uppermost quadrant of

firelock and amunition, &c. &c. As to flying, I would suggest an umbrella with joints of this kind, as requiring least weight in the apparatus, and less dexterity in the management. Perhaps it would not be amiss to add a few bladders of inflammable air to diminish the specific weight of the body.

* Is there not reason to suspect, that the arms would begin to fall open only after they descended below the horizontal radius? *Edit.*

the ascending side, the arms would be all lying flat upon the wheel. Here then a great overbalance of weight is procured, which is constantly applied to the descending side.

Such would appear to be the situation of matters, when we attend merely to the weight of the arms and their float boards.

When the motion of the wheel comes to be very rapid, a centrifugal force is acquired, which might cause all the arms to fly round at full stretch. This force may be so great as to make their weight as nothing. It must be observed, however, that the arms are always in readineſs, so to speak, to interpose their weight, as a moving force, wherever the centrifugal force ſhall begin to flag; let this cease to be an equipoise to their weight in the smallest degree, the arms will immediately bend in a small degree inwards on the ascending side of the wheel, and an overbalance of weight will consequently be derived, as already explained, to the descending side. What although this overbalance be trifling? A very small force is of great account when applied to continue a motion which already exists. Exactly in the same manner, the water comes to lose a great part of its action against the wheel; the action of the water depends entirely upon the exceſs of its velocity over that of the circumference of the wheel; for suppose the velocity of the circumference to exceed that of the water, the *awes*, instead of being preſsed by the water, would overtake it and puſh it forward; and the water would resist the wheel. If their velocities were equal, they would slide on at equal rates when in contact, and neither would preſs on, or puſh forward the o-

ther. In proportion then as the velocity of the wheel increases, in the same proportion does the action of the water diminish, till it may be supposed reduced almost to nothing. As this, however, does not prevent the water from being necessary to the commencement and continuation of the motion, so neither does the supposition of an acquired centrifugal force which shall overbalance the weight of the arms, prevent us from concluding, that such a construction of a wheel might be of advantage, both in facilitating the first acquisition of motion, and in reiterating it when it begins to decrease. I shall not swell this paper by any additional observations. I am one of your constant readers. C. F.

Manse of Newlands,
Nov. 2. 1792.

A CRITIC CRITICISED BY ARCTICUS.

For the Bee.

Mr Editor,

I presume it is permitted when one of your correspondents has amused himself with attacking a favourite national author, without giving valid reasons for so doing, that another may amuse himself in an answer containing as few. However, let me whisper you, Mr Editor, that this species of warfare may at the same time produce no bad variety, in the midst of so much solid matter; as we are not always displeased at occasionally falling upon a light airy paper, not overloaded with reasons, during the process of digestion, whilst lolling in our arm-chairs

after dinner, in compliance with the wise proverb of our ancestors.

I give up, then, to your hard-named correspondent, Yackstrotte, (vol. viii. p. 218.) both the public and Pope, nay, the devil and the pretender into the bargain, if he pleases, as the old attendants given by the good people of England to his Romish namesake, in hopes Mr Yackstrotte will only spare poor Shakespeare, the favourite of either side the Tweed; at least till he has found time to give us a few reasons for putting him into such company. Surely the few bad lines he accuses him of, is not sufficient cause of condemnation in the land of liberty, whatever it might have been on the continent during the reign of the bastile.

But far be it from me to say, that all three are not lawful game, as every thing is in your happy island; although I think they must be brought down with something better aimed than a few random shot, which might equally have hit any straggling author in the language; for I declare on my own part, I have not been able to discover where, or wherefore, this blunderbush was pointed.

First, as to Pope, that sportive gentleman, himself, hung up to public grin so many of the king's liege subjects, embalmed in caustic wit, that he must have expected one day or other the *lex talionis*, either in this world or the next, so I leave him to his fate.

Secondly, as to the public. As every individual that compose it, will naturally except himself from Mr Yackstrotte's criticism, whilst he admits the

justice of it on all the rest; it must of course fall only on the common scape goat, *nobody*, and let somebody undertake his defence.

But lastly, with regard to our adorable bard, Shakespeare, if he ſhould be validly attacked, which I do not take upon me to say he is, surely his swarm of commentators, critics, correctors, and admirers, whose ſhrewdneſs, sagacity, and critical acumen, have swelled every play into a volume, will rise in his defence, long before one can be set up at the north pole; so that I am likely to have little more to do in this buſineſs, than just to agree with you, Mr Editor, *that there is much merit in a man judging for himself, instead of following servilely the public opinion;* and here candour obliges us both to acknowledge, that to this species of merit no writer for the Bee has an equal claim with Yackstrotte, and none so little, (on the present point in dispute) as

ARCTICUS.

You may smile, if you please, at my digestive epistle; but the art of saying *nothing* is not so easy as you think, and that your two last mentioned correspondents can testify.

AN ANECDOTE.

AT a musical country meeting, a vocal performer who was rather ſhabbily dreſsed about his *under garments*, being complimented on the power of his voice, vainly threw up his head, and replied: "O Lard, Sir, I can *make any thing of it!*" 'Can you, indeed?' said a wit in the company: 'Why then I'd you advise to make yourself *a pair of breeches of it.*

ODE WRITTEN BY A NATIVE OF DAMASCUS.

[*Faithfully translated.*]

For the Bee.

HAIL, the banquet, 'tis divine!
Here the streams of rosy wine,
Such as friendly souls desire,
Warm the lovers am'rous fire.

Fill'd with friendship, full of mirth,
Rich libations sprinkle earth;
Crims'ning high the lucid clay,
Night reflects a rising day.

Goblets, vases, mighty bowls,
Pouring nectar o'er our souls,
Sparkle to each raptur'd eye
Bright as Zodiac's starry sky.

Ev'ry beauty, all the loves,
Trip it o'er sweet scented groves;
Mirth alone is welcome here;
Sorrow comes, and dries the tear.

Sprightly song, and dulcet sound,
Freely wander wide around;
Song has charms, and music pow'r,
Soft to hush the tempest's hour.

Moping grief, and aching care,
Instant quit their sombre air.
All is pleasure, all is mirth!
Hither come, ye sons of earth.

Yes the dervise here may come,
Let him make with us his home;
Soon his bosom, taught to feel,
Shall to wine and beauty yield.

THE COQUETTE.

BY DR HOULTON.

CORINNA, aged forty-five,
Did not of marriage yet despair,
Tho' she her charms had kept alive
A dozen years by art and care.

Full oft ſhe many a gen'rous youth,
Had trick'd and treated with diſdain,
But now ſhe wiſh'd in earneſt truth,
To add a link to Hymen's chain.

To Strephon, then, who, day and night,
Did heretofore ſincerely woo,
She condeſcended thus to write,
'You've conquer'd, Sir, I yield to you.'

Strephon whoſe mind ſweet peace poſſeſs'd,
Who long had ceas'd to love and ſigh,
Gave quick for anſwer, thus addreſs'd,
"Read it, Corinna, and apply.

"The riſing ſun I've oft admir'd,
"Till pleaſure has to rapture grown;
"His noontide beams my breaſt have fir'd,
"With glowing bliſs to words unknown.

"But Sol, ſo bright, at eve declines,
"When all men ſee his courſe is run,
"With ruddy face ſtill, ſtill he ſhines,
"But ah! his heat and beams are gone."

She read—ſhe paus'd!—Reflection's glaſs,
Quick as the forked lightnings dart,
Show'd her with painted haggard face,
O ſad conviction to her heart!

No more at balls or routs ſhe's ſeen,
No more each borrow'd art ſhe tries;
A victim now to heps and ſpleen,
All day ſhe hides, all night ſhe ſighs.

Then let not ſlip ye lovely fair!
Youth's prime, and beauty's bliſsful date,
To gen'rous lovers be ſincere,
Leſt thou ſhould meet Corinna's fate.

TO VIRTUE.

Ev'ry ill of mankind's lot,
From the palace to the cot,
Riſes from the wretched mind,
Where with vice ſtrong paſſion's join'd;
These to check we go to ſchool,
But return without a rule:
We ſhould ſeek then virtue,—love;
Virtue reigns ſupreme above.

THOUGHTS ON THE PROGRESSIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN SCOTLAND.

NIL desperandum ſhould be the motto of every person who wiſhes to promote the welfare of his country; for though a proposal for improvement may be overlooked fifty times, yet if it be again and again brought forward, if it be well founded, it will at last come to be adopted. Nothing can be ſo unlucky for a person who ſpeculates on ſubjects of national aggrandiſement, as a pettiſh temper, which becomes hurt at neglect from thoſe who know leſs, but may be able to do more than one's ſelf. Let the idea be thrown out whenever it occurs; it will be like ſeed ſcattered upon the ground. It may ſometimes fall upon ſtones, and produce nothing; but at other times it may fall upon a fertile ſoil, which will produce fruits abundantly. Never deſpair, therefore: what has been overlooked at one time, may be taken up with ardour at another, if it be brought forward with a proper degree of modeſty, and the benefits that would reſult from it, explained with perſpicuity.

Provoſt Drummond, whoſe memory ought to be revered by the inhabitants of Edinburgh, will afford an example for illuſtrating this propoſition. This gentleman propoſed an immenſe number of improvements on this place, that have been ſince executed with great facility, though few of them could be carried into effect in his own time. The infirmary was almoſt the only public work of conſiderable magnitude of his own projecting, that he himſelf lived to ſee carried into effect. But the north and ſouth bridges; the new town; the regiſter office; the new college; and almoſt every other improvement that has

since taken place in Edinburgh, were first proposed by him; though he found it impoſsible to get his plans attended to. They were all considered as being so expensive, and so much beyond the powers of this country to carry into execution, as scarcely to deserve a moment's attention from any one. It is above thirty years since he caused a model of Edinburgh, to be executed with his proposed improvements, which is now lodged in the Society of Antiquaries in Edinburgh; by which it appears, that his plans were not one-fourth part so fine as those that have been since actually carried into effect. The powers of men in a free state can never be known till they be put to the trial.

In many other departments, the effective powers of a free nation, have, in like manner, been found infinitely to surpaſs expectation. I remember the time when it was seriously debated, whether a turnpike ſhould be erected on the road leading between Glasgow and Edinburgh; because it was apprehended, that all the money collected by it would not be ſufficient to pay the toll-gatherer for his attendance. In like manner the canal between the Forth and the Clyde, after having been proposed many years, was at last begun; but from a dread that the lockage dues would never be equal to the interest of the money expended upon it, the funds fell ſhort; the work stopped before it could be of any use. And had not government at that time advanced some money to help it forward, it is a great chance if it ever could have been completed. It is now found to be a most beneficial concern. In like manner, the Crinan canal has been often mentioned; and the idea of it as often abandoned as impracticable; till now, that in the space of a few months, more money has been subscribed for that purpose than the estimated expence amounts to; nor have I the smallest

doubt, but it will be found to be a very lucrative project to the undertakers. The grand canal between Inverneſs and Fort William, has been an object of speculation for centuries. The time approaches when it will no longer be a *speculative* project; and the canal between the Clyde and Edinburgh, which if it had been proposed thirty years ago, would have been judged nearly as impracticable as to erect a bridge to the moon, requires only to be accurately surveyed, I had almost ſaid, to be carried into practice. For if a man of ſkill ſhall declare it to be practicable, I have no doubt but money would be found to effect the whole, almost as ſoon as the ſubſcription could be opened; for the immenſe quantities of coal, and iron, and other weighty commodities, that lie in the track of that canal, offer a proſpect of ſuch an active traffic along it, as muſt afford the moſt encouraging proſpect of abundant returns to the adventurers in that project.

The French have an excellent expreſſion, which they apply to the exertions of men who go beyond whatever was expected of them; *il fait l'impoſſible.* In the ſame ſpirit, we may ſay theſe are a few of the *impoſſible* things that we have actually ſeen executed, with a few others that are in view. But there are an infinity of others that our deſcendants will ſee executed, (if they ſhall be wiſe enough to be contented with liberty and property,) which we have not even got a glimpſe of as yet. By means of canals, in particular, much remains to be done; and I ſhould not be ſurpriſed, if, in a century hence, there ſhould ſcarcely be a farm in the kingdom, from whence its produce could not be carried to market by water; in which way a ſingle horſe could draw as much as ſome hundreds could have carried in the manner I recollect to have ſeen univerſally practiſed even in my own time. The wealth and induſtry this would diffuſe through the country,

cannot by us at present be conceived. Allow me here to add a few explanations on a subject, that has scarcely yet obtained any ſhare of the attention of the people of this country.

It has been unfortunately a prevailing notion in Scotland, that a canal can be of little utility, unleſs it ſhall terminate ſomewhere at a ſea port town, and communicate directly with the ſea. And therefore it has been ſupposed, that no communication by water can be eſtabliſhed from any place that is conſiderably elevated above the level of the ſea, unleſs at an extravagant expence of multiplied lockages; which is not only inconvenient on account of the charge of locks, but is often impracticable from a want of water ſufficient to ſupply the waſte that theſe locks neceſſarily occaſion. It is, however, moſt certain, that innumerable benefits may be derived from ſmall canals, *carried on a level* from town to town, in the internal parts of the country; or even from a market town to a country fertile in corn, or abounding in coals, or other valuable articles, even where they are much above the level of the ſea. A ditch of ſix or eight feet wide, and three or four feet deep, could be executed at a very ſmall charge; and might be carried, in a level direction, even along the ſides of declivities, as is done with mill leads in innumerable ſituations; along which might be carried to market all the productions of agriculture, and other weighty articles, at a very ſmall charge. I will not at preſent ſtop on this head longer, than barely to ſuggeſt the idea, and illuſtrate it by a ſingle example, leaving the farther conſideration of it to a future period.

Some years ago, the gentlemen in the county of Forfar, remarking that there is a large level valley extends from Perth to Arbroath, beyond the ridge of hills that lie behind Dundee; and that in particular between Forfar

and Arbroath, was nearly one continued chain of fresh water locks, with little declivity; they thought that a canal might be there executed at a small expence. But upon making the survey, they found that the rise between the sea at Arbroath and Forfar, was about one hundred feet, which would occasion a considerable expence in locks. On which account the undertaking was abandoned for that time, and the plans, and estimate of the work, were lodged in the archives of the city of Dundee, where they now are.

If, however, instead of leading the proposed canal directly into the sea, it had been carried along towards Arbroath, upon a level with the town of Forfar, it could have been brought within about one hundred yards of the town and harbour of Arbroath; where, if proper warehouses were erected, the goods could be stored till opportunities offered to ship them off, if they were going by sea; and if they were intended for the use of the town, they could be as easily conveyed from thence, as if they had been landed at the quay; and if goods are to be landed from a ship, to supply the internal demand of the country, they might be as easily lodged in these storehouses as any where else; so that scarcely any expence could be incurred in this case, that would have been saved, had the canal landed in the harbour itself. For it must be a very extensive trade, indeed, that could keep vessels constantly lying by, either for receiving the goods that may be sent, or for supplying those that may be wanted in return; so that a canal thus conducted would be nearly as convenient as if it had terminated in the harbour itself.

Nor is this all the advantage that would be derived from a canal, conducted on the plan above mentioned. If the canal had thus been brought to the neigbourhood of Arbroath, it might have been carried forward on the same

level, at little expence, to Dundee; and thus would have opened a ready communication between every farm on the whole route from Forfar, to Arbroath and Dundee, to either of these market towns, that might best have suited the conveniency and interest of the farmer. Not only so, but by a little extension of the same plan, it might have been continued westward from Forfar to Perth; so that through all that level and fertile strath, which by reason of hills and bad roads, is now nearly cut off from the best markets, the farmers would then be at liberty to choose either Forfar, Cupar, Perth, Arbroath, or Dundee, as best suited their convenience; and if this were done, by sending off another branch from Forfar towards Montrose, by Brechin, an extensive communication could be opened up through one of the finest parts in Scotland, with valuable markets; for want of which the value of that country has never yet been brought, perhaps, to one tenth part of what it might easily be *.

I know that, at the present moment, these ideas will be deemed chimerical; but I know, also, that before half a century be passed, all this, and much more, will be carried into effect: and then people will wonder how they should have been so slow to adopt such easy and such important improvements. Let it not be forgotten, that at this present moment, the gentlemen of Aberdeenshire, who are among the most sensible class of country gentlemen in Scotland, and who have led the way to all Scotland in many important improvements, are still so blind to their own interest, as steadily to oppose a turnpike act in that county. They are, in this respect, on the same footing as those in the shire of Edinburgh were about forty years ago; for there, it was then universally believed among the popu-

* It is unnecessary here to state the means of overcoming small difficulties that would occur in the execution of this plan.

lace that turnpikes would prove ruinous to the farmer. Experience has now taught them, that so far is this from having been the case, that it has been the greatest bleſſing to them that ever was conferred upon them. Yet with this example before them, the otherwise enlightened gentlemen in Aberdeenſhire, choose to ſhut their eyes. Their eyes will however be opened in ſpite of theſe prejudices; and they will then experience the benefits of improvements, which might have taken place long ago. Knowledge among men is no where intuitive; it is always progreſsive: but among a free people, nothing can prevent that progreſsion; and it is upon this principle I rely.

One word more, and I terminate this speculation. Economy is of great utility in agriculture and arts; and the leſs expence that is thrown out on any undertaking of the kind here proposed, the better. It is easy to construct a veſsel of six feet in width, that would draw no more than from one to two feet water, which might carry twenty tons burden, if neceſsary; and which might easily be drawn by a single horse. Few farmers can have occasion for a boat above half this size; and it could be built nearly for the same price as a good cart costs at present. For facilitating the paſsage of one boat past another, till the repair on the canal became very considerable, niches, the length of one of the boats, cut out on the side of the canal at convenient distances, could be made at little expence so as to permit one boat to paſs another easily, even where the boat was nearly the whole breadth of the canal.

SINGULAR EFFECTS OF LOVE, A CURIOUS ANECDOTE.

NOTHING discovers more plainly that man was created by nature, a social animal, than that sympathetic affec-

tion between the sexes, so universally experienced, which we have called love. This sensation differs from the mere sexual appetite in many respects, and is a generous affection of the mind, which seeks its own gratification by promoting the happineſs of the beloved object, in every poſsible way. This is one of those instinctive impreſsions, that have been originally stamped upon the human mind, by the bountiful Creator of this universe, for beneficent purposes, and is by no means dependent on reason on the one hand, or animal appetite on the other; for the reasoning faculty may be strong, and the animal appetite violent, where love, in the true meaning of the term, is scarcely felt. It depends upon the tender feelings of the heart alone, which give rise to an innumerable variety of pleasures and of pains, that are totally beyond the reach of reason to comprehend, and produces effects that never could have been conceived poſsible, had reason alone been to judge.

Among the innumerable caprices of this powerful affection of the mind, the following is one of the most singular I have met with.

When Francis I. was made a prisoner at Pavia, a gentleman named *Beauregard* was one of those who were obliged to save themselves by flight: he did not with to return to France during that period of humiliating depreſsion which it experienced on that occasion, but stopped at Turin. There he soon became enamoured of a beautiful widow, called Aurelia. Beauregard was an accompliſhed gentleman; he had a vigorous mind, and a sound understanding; he was young, and had a figure and addreſs that were universally attractive. Aurelia, on her part, was equally engaging: ſhe was one of those striking beauties, beside whom others disappear. Beauregard became desperately in love with her. Aurelia would not

listen to his suit. She reproached him with being a Frenchman whose volatility and indiscretion were notorious, to a proverb. Beauregard assured her that he was exempt from those failings, and that he was capable of making the greatest efforts, to prove the sincerity of his love. Well, then, said Aurelia, I desire that you shall remain mute for one year. Beauregard spoke to her from that moment only by signs. When he returned home, he only explained himself by signs to his servants. All the world believed he had lost the power of speech, and bewailed his misfortune. The physicians who were called in to his assistance, prescribed medicines; which he declined to take. He went to see Aurelia, but still explained himself by signs only. He often put his hand upon his heart, and pointed to her fine eyes as the cause of his malady. Aurelia did not appear to be touched with his situation; she ordered him not to see her more. Mournful he departed for France. Francis I. having by that time recovered his liberty, Beauregard was known to him when he appeared at court. Francis, who esteemed him, sent his own physicians to attend him; who prescribed several remedies. He feigned to listen to them; but, as he was not cured, empirics began to offer their assistance; but he behaved to them as he had done to the regular physicians, and all their efforts were vain. At last a stranger lady arrived, who boasted of being possessed of powerful secrets in the medical art, presented herself before Francis, as a woman who had performed extraordinary cures; who even had restored the dead to life, as Molliere says. Her beauty surprised that monarch, who was by no means an enemy to beautiful women. He commanded Beauregard to be brought; who was no less struck than his majesty at the sight of this fair empiric. "To show you, (said she to the king,) what is the virtue I possess, I will effect the cure by a single word.

Speak! (said she to Beauregard.) The tongue of the cavalier was immediately untied. It was Aurelia herself!—who being now convinced of the sincerity of her lover, judged that he was in every respect deserving of her love; which she conferred upon him with equal sincerity. These two lovers recounted their history to the king; the conclusion of which was a marriage, that gave as universal satisfaction to the king, and his court, as to the parties themselves.

Un amour vrai, sans feinte and sans caprice,
Est, en effet, le plus grand frein du vice,
Dans ces liens qui sait se retenir,
Est honête homme, ou va le devenir. VOLTAIRE.

TO THE READERS OF THE BEE.

THE Editor takes this opportunity of informing his readers, that he has been favoured in the most obliging manner, with a set of elegant coloured drawings of the birds, plants, and fishes of Botany Bay *, done from the life upon the spot, by a gentleman of high military rank, who resided in that country about three years. These amount to more than an hundred drawings, most of them exhibiting specimens of objects of singular beauty and elegance, many of which are extremely different from any other known species. These the Editor proposes to have engraved for the Bee with all convenient speed. Some of the drawings are now in the hands of the engraver, and he hopes to be able to give his readers a specimen of them in the course of the present volume.

He has been likewise favoured by his correspondents with several specimens of singular nondescript animals, from India, and other places abroad; and others he has reason to believe, are forwarding hither from various

* New South Wales is the proper name; but as the other is as well understood and more easily pronounced, it seems to be the preferable phrase.

other places; so that he has every reason to expect an inexhaustible supply of articles of this nature, much greater than the low price of his miscellany can permit him to delineate. These, however, he will take care to insert as often as possible; so that although these will not much encroach on the room appropriated to other articles, he thinks he can promise to treat the lovers of natural history with an uninterrupted supply of original articles of this kind, that is not to be found in any other miscellaneous publication in Europe.

Some of his friends who have seen the drawings, and admire the singular beauty of the objects, and brilliancy of their colours, have expressed a wish that he could accommodate such of his readers as might choose it, with a set of coloured prints. He has it therefore in contemplation, to offer a specimen of these to his readers, if he finds it can be done in this place. This will make no difference in price to those who choose the uncoloured plates, though a reasonable rise of price will be necessary from those who shall incline to have them coloured. Of these terms he will be able to speak when he presents the specimen.

But though he intends to comply with the wishes of many of his readers, in thus appropriating a small share of his work to curious articles in the line of natural history, it is by no means his intention to dedicate more than a reasonable proportion of his work to that object; so that every other interesting object of discussion, will be continued as occasion requires.

It is but justice to himself, however, to remark, that on account of a very considerable rise in the price of paper, that has just now taken place, as well as of almost every other article in the printing line, the profits on the same extent of sales are now considerably less than at the commencement of this work. Yet, grateful for the favour he has received from an indulgent public, he is desirous of

making every return in his power; nor is he afraid but, with the continuance of their favour, and a due regard to punctual payments, he shall be enabled to continue to furnish this work at the same rate as formerly.

ACCOUNT OF A REMARKABLE DWARF.

JEFFERY HUDON, a famous dwarf, was born at Oakham in Rutlandshire, in 1619. He was in the family of the then duke of Buckingham, at seven years of age, at which time his stature did not exceed eighteen inches; and to divert the court, where that nobleman entertained at Burleigh on the hill, he was served up to table in a cold pye. He was afterwards presented to Henrietta Maria, queen consort to king Charles I. and was often employed by her on messages abroad. His size never exceeded three feet nine inches. His courage, however, far exceeded the dimensions of his body; for upon the breaking out of the rebellion, he became a captain of horse. When the queen was forced out of England, he attended her to France; from whence he was banished for killing Mr Croft, brother to the lord of that name; and going to sea, he was taken by a Turkish corsair and sold for a slave, in which state he remained many years. Being afterwards redeemed, he returned to England, and in the time of Oates's plot, was taken up, and committed prisoner to the gatehouse for a considerable time. He died in the year 1678.

A REMARKABLE INSTANCE OF LONGEVITY.

HENRY JENKINS, who lived to the age of 170, was born in the north riding of Yorkshire. Two years before his death, which happened in 1670, he was able to bind sheaves after the reapers. As there was no register old enough to evidence the time of his birth, it was gathered

from the following circumstance. Being asked whether he remembered the battle of Flodden (which he called Plowden,) he answered in the affirmative; and gave as good an account of it as could be expected, considering that he was then, as he said, only twelve years of age. This battle was fought in 1513. Besides this, there were in his neighbourhood several persons about 100 years old, who all agreed, that from their earliest remembrance Harry Jenkins was looked upon as an old man. In the last century of his life, he followed the employment of a fisherman; and when 157 years of age, he went to York assizes, where his evidence was allowed of, in an affair of 240 years standing. His sight and hearing continued to the last.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE various and important lucubrations of *Ascanius* are received, and shall appear with first convenience.

The very interesting memoirs of *count Hertzberg*, the great minister of Frederick, are thankfully received, and shall be inserted with the earliest opportunity.

The prophecy by *Thomas* the *Rymer* has no fault, but that of being rather long; but we will try to get a place for it.

The biographical sketches of *Jamieson* the painter are highly acceptable.

The account of the Jersey method of thatching houses is received, and shall be inserted as soon as possible.

The lines by *R. F.* have appeared in print, perhaps five hundred times, so as to be known by every school boy.

The communication by *G. S.* is come to hand and under consideration. In general, violent panegyric is not consistent with truth; and when applied to a minister, however much it may please his partisans at the time he is in power, seldom is so much relished at a future period.

The lines from *Arstola* are also under consideration.

The short account of *Kumbukenneth* is also come to hand, and shall be inserted as soon as room can be spared for it.

The account of the *Colymbus Immer* is thankfully received. Could a specimen of the bird be obtained from whence an accurate drawing could be made, it would prove very acceptable.

The obliging communication by *E. O. I.* is thankfully received.

The interesting and well timed communication by *Nerva* is just received, and shall have a place the very first opportunity.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30. 1793.

THE AMERICAN GOLDEN CREEPER.

THIS rare bird has never been noticed in any British publication. It was sent over from Cayenne to the society of Natural History of Paris, by M. le Blond, and was described by M. de Bolk, in

la Journal d'Histoire Naturelle, No. x. from which our figure and description are copied.

TROCHILUS Smaragdulus.

T. Curvirostris, viridi-auratus, remigibus rectricibusque fusco, violaceis, jugulo aureo nitente.

Habitat in America meridionali.

DESCRIPTION.

Head, neck, belly, thighs, back, rump, and superior coverture of the wings, of a golden green, very bright. Throat, changing gold colour. Under coverture of the wings, and inferior feathers of the tail, rusty. Wings and superior feathers of the tail of a brown, verging to violet. The feathers of its body brown at their base. Those of the throat brown at their base, and white at their extremity.

Total length five inches. Length of the bill one inch.

This bird, on account of its brilliant colours, must be one of the most beautiful of its species.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

As you have desired your correspondents in your Prospectus to communicate original pieces, characteristic and illustrative of life and manners, I send you a translation of a genuine address to the late general Cornwallis, governor of Nova Scotia, from an Indian chief, which was written in the language of his tribe, and in French, and presented at Halifax.

I will not insult the understanding of your readers, by suggesting reflections on the perusal of this

ſingular and affecting epiſtle; but conclude with ſubſcribing myſelf

A CONSTANT READER AND ADMIRER OF THE BEE.

THE TRANSLATION OF THE ADDRESS.

LIEUTENANT OF THY KING!

THE place where thou art; the place where thou dost lodge; the place thou dost fortify; the place thou wiſheſt to eſtabliſh; the place thou deſireſt to make thyſelf maſter of;—that place is mine.

I am ſprung from this land, as does the graſs. I that am a ſavage, was born there, and my fathers before me. This land is mine inheritance; I ſwear it is! The land that my God has given me to be my country for ever and ever.

I tell thee plainly the thoughts of my heart concerning thee; for the works thou makeſt at Chebuc, which thou calleſt Halifax, in Nova Scotia, afford me matter of ſerious reflection.

My king, and thy king over the great waters, have agreed among themſelves, upon a certain diſtribution of lands, and therefore are at peace. For my part I can neither enter into an alliance, nor make peace with thee.

Show me where I, an Indian, can retire. It is thou that chaceſt me. Show me where thou wilt that I take refuge.

Thou haſt taken poſſeſſion of almoſt all this country; in ſo much that Chebuc is my laſt reſource; yet thou envieſt me even that ſpot, and would drive me from it.

This convinces me that you will oblige me never to desist from war against thee;—never to bury the hatchet, or think of the wampum and the calumet.——Thou gloriest in thy riches and thy great numbers. For my part, who am poor, and a very small number, I cannot do better than trust in the great God of my fathers, who will judge between us with power, and with vengeance, but with justice.

The worm that creeps, knows to defend itself when it is attacked; and I surely, savage as I am, am better than a worm, and must know to defend myself when I am attacked.

I shall come to see thee soon. Yes, trust me, I will see thee; and I hope what I shall hear from thy own mouth, will afford me some comfort. Farewell.

RUSSIAN ANECDOTE BY ARCTICUS.

For the Bee.

THE grand chancellor Osterman* was so well served abroad, as to get intelligence of a scheme formed at the court of Versailles, to send over an insinuating elegant gamester, to attack the duke of Biron‡ on his weak side, (a violent rage for play,) and by that means to render him probably more tractable on some point they wanted to gain, when less overflowing with ready money than he generally was.

To communicate this information, the chancellor called on the haughty duke, then all-powerful; and suspected he was at home, though declared abroad by his porter. This real, or supposed affront,

* Who was chancellor during the reign of empress Anne.

‡ For an account of this extraordinary man, see Bee, vol. vi. p. 135.

the chancellor took a most humourous mode of revenging, which was wrapping himself up in flannels, as if attacked with a violent fit of the gout, to which he was subject, and then writing a note to Anne, to inform her majesty that he had something of moment to communicate, but was unfortunately unable to move from his couch with his ordinary complaint.

This produced the very visit he expected; and the duke was announced as coming to speak with him from the sovereign. Osterman received his visitor extended on his sopha, wrapt up like a mummy in flannel, and pretended to be unable from pain, to utter any thing, but the usual involuntary exclamations of a man in violent sufferings. When he had made the duke sit in eager curiosity to hear his secret, long enough to be revenged on him for the supposed refusal at his door, he seemed to articulate with great difficulty, that the French were sending over a *gamester*,—and then stopped again with excess of pain. The duke on hearing the mountain thus delivered of a mouse; and being unable to draw any thing farther from the gouty chancellor, went off in a pet, probably thinking it a joke on his prevailing passion for gaming, and informed the empress that count Osterman had nothing to reveal, but was delirious with a violent fit of the gout. Here the matter rested, and was forgot by the duke.

Some months afterwards, the political gamester actually arrived, under the form of an elegant, easy, dissipated French marquis, with a large credit on a house of the English factory. He presently insinuated

himself into the good graces of the duke, and had cleared him and his party of their superfluous cash, when the chancellor thinking the lesson sufficient, dispatched a courier to Moscow, to bring down, post, a midshipman absent on leave from the fleet, named Grukoff, whom he was assured to be inferior to none in Europe, either in the necessary manipulation of the cards, or knowledge of the game *quinze*, then the fashionable court play, and at which the marquis had won all the money. One preliminary measure was however necessary to the scheme of getting back the money of the duke and the other noblemen, which was to get the midshipman made an officer of the guards, to entitle him to play at court. This Osterman did, by soliciting it for him under the title of a relation; a favour immediately conferred by Anne, left entirely ignorant of the plot. The new ensign began to lose freely small sums, like a wealthy *novice*, elated with the honour of playing at court; and at last drew the attention of the marquis as a pigeon worth plucking. After some evenings forcing him with high play, two thirds of all his former gains were carried off by the pigeon; who then was marked out as an object worthy of condign punishment, by the nettled Frenchman; and a monstrous stake was proposed, which the marquis certainly made himself sure of gaining, by some masterpiece of the shuffling art, reserved for the *coup de grace*; but probably it never entered either into the marquis's head or calculation, that a Muscovite pigeon could swallow a card, he had drawn too much, as he actually did, with some sweetmeats taken from an adjoining table, and left just

fifteen in hand, the same number the Frenchman's art had procured to himself likewise, and on which he betted not only all his former winnings, but to the amount of his credit with his banker, in perfect security of gaining. But he had forgot an essential circumstance, in case of equality, that the Russian was first in hand, which determined the matter in his favour, and the laugh was turned on the unfortunate Frenchman.

The chancellor being by this means in possession of both the gains and credit of the amiable gamester, waited once more on the duke, to finish the conversation which the gout had prevented him concluding on his grace's first visit, and told him that he was *then* anxious to put him on his guard against a gamester, whom the court of France was sending to fleece him; and had it not been for the impatience of his highness on that occasion, and the abrupt manner he left him, he might have saved his money.

The duke, quite outrageous at the trick played him by the marquis, talked of having him arrested as a cheat; but the chancellor, taking a bag from under his cloak, added, coolly, that he had taken a more effectual method to punish him *in kind;* and returned the duke both his own and his friends money, only drily begging him in future *not to be so impatient when gouty men had secrets to discover.*

The rest of the spoil made the fortune of the successful officer, with an injunction never to lift a card again, if he wished to spend his days out of Siberia, where people would run less risk from his address.

It has since become, as I am told, a sort of proverb amongst the Ruſsian black legs, that such a one plays like a midſhipman, when fortune favours him *a little too much.* ARCTICUS.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

WHAT follows is extracted from an old book that lately fell into my hands. If you think this will serve to fill up a spare corner of the Bee, it is much at your service; and the inserting it will oblige your constant reader, M. N.

ACCOUNT OF A REMARKABLE FISH CAST ON SHORE IN NORTHUMBERLAND, 1532.

AT Tinmouth in Northumberland, in the year 1532, a monstrous fiſh was cast on ſhore, which not being of the whale kind, was the more remarkable. Its length was about ninety feet; and from the back to the belly it measured near nine ells. The mouth was above six ells long, with jaws proportionable. The ribs, thirty in number, measured twenty-one feet in length, and one and a half in circumference. It had five very large throats, and twenty-five smaller paſsages into three vast bellies. Its two fins were each about fifteen feet long, of which one was a ſufficient load for ten oxen. Instead of teeth, it had plates of a horny substance, and a tongue about seven ells in length. The eyes were nowise proportionable to the rest of the body, they being not much larger than those of an ox, but placed at about six ells distance from each other. The tail, which was forked and jagged like a saw, measured near seven ells.

A TABLE OF GEMS.

Continued from p. 282.

Class sixth.

EMERALD.

The GEMMA NERONIANA or DOMITIANA of the Romans.

HARDNESS 12; SPECIFIC GRAVITY 2,8.

Varieties.

DARK or LIGHT GREEN.

N. B. It changes to *blue*, by heat, and returns again to its natural colour when cold.

Analysis.

ORIENTAL, H 12; Sp Gr 2,8; Arg 60; Sil 24; Cal 8; Ir 6 *.

*OCCIDENTAL.

Form.

The emerald is commonly found in hexagonal columns or prisms, often truncated at both ends; although sometimes found in round flat pieces. And there is a paler kind from the East Indies and Peru, occasionally found in groups or druses, like rock-chrystal, on a basis of white quartz. The finest druse of this kind known, is one consisting of more than an hundred great and small emeralds, an offering made by a king of the two Sicilies to the holy chapel of Lorretto. Another variety of the emerald is

* Achard.

found in columns, stripped longitudinally, (like some of our specimens of the Siberian aqua marine in the author's collection,) but of so deep a green as to be almost opaque. Some of this sort have the properties of the tourmaline on being heated. The author of the table makes no doubt but that chemical analysis will point out a difference in composition, and consequently indicate a different arrangement for several gems that are at present claſsed as varieties of the different precious stones, merely on some *external* resemblance.

Structure, Properties, &c.

The texture laminar. Electric on friction, Does not lose its colour in the fire. Melts *per se*, in a strong heat. What is called mother of emeralds, from Egypt, is a ſhorl, according to some; but the late Mr Born, in his new work, or *Catalogue Raiſonné*, (often quoted in this table for novelties,) aſserts it is a species of green semitransparent jade. In that case it is probably of the same nature with that used formerly in lieu of iron throughout all the Pacific Ocean, and by the Tchutchki near Kamtchatka, till furniſhed by the Ruſsians with that useful metal; however each man still carries a piece of it about with him as a whet stone. This curious information was received from Mr Laxman of Irkoutsky, inspector of the Siberian foſsils, when down here last winter, who presented a poliſhed specimen of it to the author, of a dark green colour, semitransparent, in thin pieces, and in every respect agreeing with Born's description of the green jade, which he calls *prime d'emeraud*.

Largest.

We have accounts of monstrous gems under the name of emeralds; but it may be taken for granted, that all those measured by the cubit or foot are only fluors or vitreous compositions, such as that shown in the abbey of Reychenau, near the lake Constance, under the name of emerald, measuring two feet and an half in length; and some others, equally monstrous, recorded by historians.

Where found.

They are found in India, Peru, the Brazils, Egypt. None in Russia, although authors talk of Siberian emeralds; probably from some mistake of a traveller, who has taken some variety of aqua marine, or of a fluor, or of a shorl, for that gem. Still the author possesses no specimen of the kind; nor has the able mineralogist, Laxman, seen but one specimen of a stone which might be suspected of the emerald species, although he resides in Siberia, and makes long yearly circuits to visit the districts where the different stones are found, as his place requires. The emerald has been found at the mountain Cairngorum, Strathspey, Scotland; but they are for the most part foul and cracked.

The emeralds which come from America are called occidental. Peru and the Brazils afford the most beautiful. They may be distinguished by the colour; that of Peru is of a sattiny appearance; the colour of Brazilian is less lively.

How valued.

Wallerius values the emerald at from thirty to eighty dollars *per* carat, according to colour, lustre, &c.

Class seventh.

AQUA MARINE, or AUGITES.

HARDNESS from 12 to 16; SPECIFIC GRAVITY 2,7

Varieties.

The ordinary colour is a SEA GREEN, from which it receives its name; but in Russia it is found of four colours, *viz.* *GREEN*, *BLUE*, *YELLOW*, and *ORANGE*; but Pallas, who discovered them, regards them as different stones.

Analysis.

SIBERIAN AQUA MARINE from Adunsholle, Sp Gr, 27; Arg 24; Sil 64; Cal 8; 1 3 °.

ORIENTAL.

* SCOTTISH.

Form.

The form of the oriental aqua marine is not mentioned by authors. Those of Saxony and Bohemia have that of peebles. Those of Siberia, hexagonal truncated prisms, in which they resemble the Peruvian emerald, and chrysolite of Brazil, as they do likewise in specific gravity.

Structure, Properties, &c.

The texture laminar, Electric on friction. It decrepitates in the fire, and melts *per se* with the blow pipe. Russia produces a greater variety of this gem than any other part of the world, *viz.* green, blue, yellow, and hyacinth colour.

Where found.

The gem mines of Moursintsky near Catharinbourg, produce them of great lustre and a beautiful colour. They are found likewise of a very fine

* Crell's chemical annals; Blendheim.

kind on Adunſhollo, near the river Onon in Dauria, on the borders of China, a mountain often mentioned in this table as fertile in gems of different kinds. It was here that Pallas firſt diſcovered the aqua marine, or rather was ſhown them by a Mongul Tartar, who did not know their value or name. The opinion of this celebrated naturaliſt merits particular reſpect; we ſhall therefore ſtate here *his opinion, as given to the author*, on what are called varieties of the aqua marine of four different colours. The blue is the only ſtone of this ſection which he allows to be an aqua marine, although the others have the ſame chryſtallization, (like the ruby, ſapphire, and topaz;) the green he regards a true *emerald;* the yellow as a *hyacinth;* and the orange as a *topaz* *. The ſame ſtones are likewiſe brought to us from the Ural mountains, near the ſource of the Hete. The aqua marine *from Invercauld*, Scotland, are very good, and differ in ſhape from other chryſtals, being moſtly three ſided, about an inch, ſome an inch and a half long, the croſs way. This ſtone is alſo from the Orkney iſlands. A blue aqua marine, in long flattened tetrahedral priſms, grooved longitudinally, and united ſideswiſe, is found among granites of Spain; and on the declivity of St Symphoreon near Lyons. This ſtone is alſo very common at Baltimore in America.

Largeſt.

Her imperial majeſty poſſeſſes a large round blue aqua marine, valued at 20,000 rubles, beſides many little columns, and other jewels of great beauty and value, of this gem in its different varieties. The elec-

* Theſe three words in Italics were left blank in the copy, and have been ſupplied by conjecture.

tor of Saxony wears occasionally an aqua marine in his hat, purchased at Leipsic fair for 30,000 dollars, probably Siberian.

How valued.

The value of the oriental aqua marine is not mentioned by authors, nor is the European.—That of the Siberian, is from twenty-five to an hundred rubles a ring stone, according to size, lustre, colour, &c.; but the yellow and orange are very rare of a considerable size, and other necessary qualities, so that they are of course dearer.

Class eighth.

CHRYSOLITE.

HARDNESS 10; SPECIFIC GRAVITY 3,6.

Varieties.

The ORIENTAL is of a light yellowish green. BERYL, PERIDOT, of a grass green. PRASSE, bluish green, like a leek. PRENITES, the green spar, formerly called the *Cape chrysolite.*

Analysis.

ORIENTAL CHRYSOLITE, H 10; S, Gr 3,6.
SILESIAN CHRYSOPHRASE, Mag 1½; Sil 94½; Cal 2½; Ir ½; Nikr*;

Form.

It is found in prisms with commonly five or six striated sides. The oriental chrysolite, peridot, and beryl, Kirwan makes the same gem; but Wallerius and Pallas assert the beryl and peridot to be varieties of the aqua marine, differing only in colour. In

* Achard.

this variety of opinions, we have here inserted the arrangement proposed by the majority of the chemical mineralogists, with Kirwan at their head, although there is no proof on either side.

Structure, Properties, &c.

The oriental is laminated, in the direction of the axis of its primitive form; whilst the occidental (Saxon,) is laminated in the reversed direction. Electric on friction. Melts *per se* into a slag, and yields only to borax, and microcosmic salt; but is not affected by alkalies. Some pretend that the oriental, in hardneſs and other qualities, resembles the sapphire and topaz; or is the same, colour excepted.

Where found.

They are found in the East Indies and Brazil, Bohemia, Saxony, Spain, and England. In the Vivarois, it is said to be found in large maſses, inclosed in lava, which, one would think, is more likely to be some sort of vitrified matter aſsuming its colour.

CHRYSOPHRASE.

The CHRYSOPHRASE is mentioned here, because Cronstadt and some other mineralogists have claſsed it as a second variety of the topaz, counting the chrysolite as the first. The one he calls the yellowiſh green topaz, the other the yellowiſh green cloudy topaz; but its softneſs and chemical analysis ſhew it to be different, at least from the topaz, whatever analogy it may have with the chrysolite.

Where found.

They are found in irregular or amorphous maſses, sometimes covered with an earthy crust, as the Silesian.

Structure, Properties, &c.

Laminar. Semitransparent. Loses its transparency and colour in the fire; but does not melt *per se*. Ruſsia produces the chrysolite in Adunſhollo and the Ural mountains. The chrysophrase is said to have been likewise discovered there lately; but we have as yet received no specimen of it. One we saw offered for sale as such, appeared to us from Silesia.

How valued.

Wallerius values the chrysolite at from twelve to twenty dollars *per* carat.

To be continued.

A NEW DISCOVERY OF A PROPHECY BY THOMAS THE RHYMER.

The Editor has been favoured by an ingenious correspondent with the following translation of a prophecy of Thomas, a rhymer, which has been lately brought to light in a very surprizing manner, all the particulars of which he would gladly have laid before his readers, were it not that it would take up more of our room than can well be spared for articles of this nature. This correspondent, with much propriety, observes, that it is the nature of prophecies never to be fully understood, till the events predicted have actually happened; and that, in the present case, the circumstances predicted, are of a nature so unlike to the general train of human events, that it is probable the persons who may in old times have read this prophecy, have considered it as so extravagant, that it could never take place, and therefore may have judged it a burlesque by some wag upon *the rhymer*, which may have been the cause of its being neglected, and never repeated by those who preserved the memory of the other writings of this popular bard.

However that may be, our correspondent, with all the minuteneſs of an accurate historian, specifies every circumstance that led to the discovery of this precious remain, the general heads of which only we hint at. He says a worthy schismatic clergyman who is a friend to the people, was the instrument made use of by providence for bringing this precious relict to light;—that he had been, as his usual custom was, attending a meeting of the friends of the people, at some distance in the country, on a Satur-

day night, with the pious intention of enabling the worthy members of that community, many of whom were of the lower ranks, to discover the grievances with which they are so sorely oppreſſed:—that in this commendable employment he had laboured hard during the greatest part of the night, and towards morning found it neceſſary to recruit his wearied spirits with a cordial, after which he mounted his steed, and proceeded homeward with great devotion, in order to prepare himſelf for the labours of the Lord's day.

THE night being dark, (proceeds my correspondent,) although morning was now nigh at hand, the worthy man wandered out of his road, and saw not that he had gone wrong, till his horse suddenly raised his head, ſhaking the bridle reins out of his master's hand,—pricked up his ears, and began to plunge with his feet. His master does not recollect how his attention had been occupied for some time before this; but being now roused and alarmed, he began to look about him. He might have blamed the horse; but having had many former proofs of the poor brute's sagacity and good temper, he only whipped and spurred to make him move forward. With difficulty the horse was forced on a few yards farther, when he again stopped, and could by no means be urged on another step. More surprised than ever, the rider was endeavouring to alight, that he might see whether there were any thing about his feet to occasion this unaccountable restiveneſs. But turning about to one side, that he might get down, he was astoniſhed to see an old man, with a few white hairs thinly scattered over his head, a long beard of the same colour, hanging down his breast, a ragged grey cloak wrapped about his ſhoulders, and a long staff in his hand, approach upon the side to which he

had turned his face. At this sight he remained motionleſs, and the figure stood still at a few paces diſtance.

" I will not waste words, (said the vision.) I am Thomas the Rhymer. My tower stands, as thou knowest, at a small distance from hence. Go thou thither without delay. Break open the wall, where thou ſhalt see several large slabs of free stone, in all appearance just about to fall. There, in a vacant space, in the middle of the wall, ſhalt thou find three long but narrow tablets of stone. Transcribe what is written on them, and communicate it to thy friends whom thou hast lately left."

Here the spectre disappeared; and as day was just beginning to break, the worthy clergyman, instead of obeying the commands of what he thought an unquiet spirit, hastened home. After a few hours rest, he repaired to the place of public worſhip, to celebrate the services of the day. But what was strange, almost above any thing that has ever yet been heard of, he had hardly well begun to preface the morning psalm, when, although he had always been remarkable as a very ready speaker, he suddenly stopped ſhort before the whole congregation,—seemed to fix his eye with a wild stare upon the empty area of the meeting house,—changed colour,—trembled,—and sunk down in the pulpit. Every body was alarmed. The congregation left the house of God, and the minister was conveyed speechleſs, to the nearest house. The elders and beadle waited upon him. It was more than two hours before he recovered so far as to be able to ex-

plain the cause of his sudden illneſs. He with much difficulty and hesitation, told the bystanders what had befallen him on the preceding night; adding, that, in the pulpit, he had seen the same apparition, in a hideous threatening aspect, and ſhaking at him, as if in the most violent rage, the staff which he bore in his hand. After pausing some time to recover strength, he continued to tell them, that this day's distreſs had come upon him for his neglecting immediate obedience to the command of the perturbed spirit. He concluded with entreating the beadle and two of the elders to go without delay to Thomas the Rhymer's tower, and search for the tablets of stone. He was soon after conveyed to his own house, where he has lain very ill ever since.

The tablets were found in the place. The following part of what was inscribed on them, has with great difficulty been decyphered, and is now here publiſhed, by the appointment of the above mentioned aſsociation; and the prayers of all charitable Christians are earnestly desired for that worthy servant of God, who still continues greatly afflicted in mind.

In this version, not one word has been added, nor a single word omitted, except where it was utterly illegible. Towards the end, especially, there are some gaps that could not be supplied,—the tablet on which these were written, having been, from its casual situation, more corroded than the others.

Prophecy by Thomas the Rhymer.

"And the king of that land, with his princes, his nobles, his captains, and his counsellors, ſhall be sore troub-

led. And they ſhall not know what to do; but their councils and devices ſhall be turned to their own undoing.

" And it ſhall come to paſs, that every man among that people ſhall imagine things to his own hurt: and every one's hand ſhall be turned againſt his brother; the ſon againſt his father; the daughter againſt her mother; the ſervant againſt his maſter: for their minds ſhall be blinded, and their hearts hardened.

" There ſhall be famine and bloodſhed in the land; and both great and ſmall ſhall be in grievous diſtreſs; the like of which has never been known.

" And, [illegible]re ſhall be gathered together vile men, from the dungeons, and from the gallies, and from ſkulking [illegible], and places of baniſhment. And these men ſhall break open the priſon doors, and ſhall ſend out into the highways, and ſhall ſearch the haunts of the thief, of the robber, and of the murderer. And whomſoever they ſhall find to exceed others in baſeneſs and in wickedneſs, if any one hath ſlain his father, or hath violated his aunt, him ſhall they take unto them for a brother, and for a leader.

" And these men ſhall join themſelves together into a company; and ſhall ſay unto the people we will rule over you.

" And the people ſhall be confounded and terrified, as the traveller when he is overtaken by a company of robbers; or the ſhepherd, when wolves, having ſcattered his flock, and torn his dog to pieces, come on with opened jaws upon himſelf.

" And there ſhall be, among those evil men, magicians and ſorcerers, who ſhall, by their ſorceries and inchantments, ſpread a miſt before the eyes, and inſtil a poiſon into the ears of the people.

"And after that they have spread a mist before their eyes, and instilled a poison into their ears, they shall say unto them; you have indeed neither bread to eat, nor raiment wherewithal you may be clothed; your old men, and your young children, and your mothers that give suck, have perished for hunger; your brothers have been driven out from amongst you, to beg their bread in strange lands; your market places are empty; your shops and work houses unoccup' '; the credit of your merchants faileth, for their stocks have melted away: yet are you great, and happy, and glorious; for we are your masters; and it is good for you to be our servants.

"And, l' ! ir their blindness, and in the simplicity of their hearts, and in the extremity of their misery, divers of the people shall be persuaded, and shall think that those things are so.

"Then shall those wicked rulers take council together, saying, one to another, this is a simple people, and they are willing to be our servants, and to throw their lives away at our bidding. Come, let us gather unto us great armies, and send them out against the nations, to the north, and to the south, to the east, and to the west. We will first send out spies through the kingdoms; and the spies shall search out the idle, and the profligate, and the unprincipled, and the simple; and shall say unto them, why linger you thus? "Behold what has been done among us! Every ruler hath been abased; and every great one hath been brought low. And those who were, like you, despised and rejected, are now governors in the land. Go ye, do likewise, and, lo! our armies shall be sent forth to help you. And they will doubtless be persuaded. Then will we send forth our armies, and they shall fight against the nations; and those men who have listened unto our spies shall be joined unto them. Then shall the nations

be discomfitted before us; and we shall subdue the whole earth. Then will we take those who shall have been persuaded by our spies to join themselves unto us, and we will cut them secretly off by poison, and by the sword; and whosoever exalteth himself in our own armies, or among the people of our own land, to him will we do in like manner. Then shall we be lords of the whole earth; and we will sit down to eat and to drink; and will take unto ourselves the fields, and the flocks, and the houses, and the vineyards, and the wives, and the daughters, and the man servants, and the maid servants, of those whom we have slain, or sent into banishment, or who have fallen in our battles; and our souls shall be satisfied to the full, of all that our hearts desire.

"And those men shall do as they have said unto one another, and shall prosper for a season; but their own devices shall at length be turned against them. And they shall at length be taken in their own snares, and shall be cut off from the face of the land; and after long tribulation, the land shall have peace.

"But it shall come to pass, that when those wicked men send out their spies among the nations, they shall send divers of them into THIS ISLAND.

"And those who come hither, shall immediately begin to practise their secret devices, and to work by sorcery and incantation.

"And they shall draw unto them whosoever is simple, and all that are vain, and light, and profligate, and void of truth, and of understanding. And whosoever is for his folly or wickedness despised among his brethren, and whosoever hath made himself vile in the eyes of the people, shall make haste to join himself unto them.

"Then shall these men learn from those spies, their wicked arts of deceit and of sorcery; and there shall be

great joy and friendſhip among them. For the ſpies ſhall rejoice in the blindneſs and weak credulity of thoſe whom they have ſeduced; and that they are bent as reeds, and are twiſted about as noſes of wax in their hands! While again the weak and wicked men of this land, ſhall imagine thoſe ſpies to be men whoſe devices may promote their purpoſes, and who have no intereſts to ſeek but theirs. And they ſhall lie unto one another, no leſs than each to their own heart.

"And in thoſe days, there ſhall come a certain man from the weſt. He ſhall be a perſon of a ſtrange and perverſe mind; the ſpirit of the wicked one ſhall be ſtrong within him. And all that ſee him, ſhall ſay, ſurely it was a truth which our fathers told us, that Satan hath been, at times, permitted of the Lord to enter into the breaſts of perſons who ſought to deliver themſelves up to work wickedneſs, and to deviſe evil devices.

"And the evil ſpirit which hath taken poſſeſſion of that poor man, ſhall torment him very ſore; and he ſhall ſpeak from his mouth, words of blaſphemy and folly, and he ſhall call himſelf the prince of peace, and the preacher of rights.

"To the weak, he ſhall ſay, that they are ſtrong; to the fooliſh, that they are wiſe; and to the vicious, that they are the children of virtue.

"And he ſhall gnaſh his teeth, and ſpeak with bitter rage againſt kings and dignities.

"And at the very name of *king*, he ſhall be provoked and agitated, yea, even as a turkycock is moved at the ſight of a bit of ſcarlet.

"And lo! there ſhall be gathered about him all who have devised evil imaginations, or who have accuſtomed themſelves to ſpeak vain words; thoſe who have uttered fooliſh things in the market places, or in night cellars, or

who have spoken unbecomingly in the aſsembly of the counsellors of the land, or in the meetings of the merchants, or in the house of the Lord, in the presence of the congregation, or before the judges. And they ſhall hear what wicked words the evil spirit that poſſeſseth him uttereth by his lips; and they ſhall hear how the wickedneſs, and the absurdity, and the audacity, and the indecency of what he saith, exceedeth all the wickedneſs, the absurdity, the audacity, and the indecency of speech, by which they had distinguiſhed themselves.

" Then ſhall they say to one another, truly this is a great and a wonderful man; for he excelleth ourselves in those things, in which we are excellent among men; come, let us hearken unto him, and let us become his disciples, and followers, and worſhipppers; and he ſhall be unto us for a leader, and a prophet, and a god.

" And the evil spirit within him ſhall laugh.

" Then ſhall these fooliſh and wicked persons do as they have said: and ſhall strive to make gain unto themselves by the blasphemies of the evil spirit speaking from within him.

" And all the vain and evil men ſhall take counsel together. The spies who have been * * * * * * * hope of profit * * * * * * * might stir up; and the vain pe rsons who have listened greedily to the words of him that is poſſeſsed of the devil.

" And they ſhall consider how they may easiest diſturb the peace of the land; and how they may most readily do evil by means of their enchantments and sorceries; and how they may best spread wide, the faith of him whom they have chosen unto themselves for a prophet, and for a god. And the evil spirit ſhall prophecy falsely in the middle of them, to deceive them.

" And the enchanters and sorcerers shall say, we will by our enchantments spread a thick mist over the whole land. And no man shall be any longer able to discern things clearly. Their eyes * * * * * untrue colours; and their ears shall be alarmed by vain noises.

" And the evil spirit, speaking from within him that is possessed of the devil, shall persuade them that they may prevail; and shall say that he will, by his power and prophecies, draw all men unto them.

" Then shall these men, having thus determined among themselves, spread themselves through the land.

" And they shall call themselves by the name of * * * * * * and shall cry aloud unto all the people to come and join themselves unto them; and they will be their leaders, and will exalt them over the heads of those whom they have hitherto obeyed.

" They shall then seek to persuade the people that they are neither free nor rich, although they have hitherto thought themselves so.

" They shall tell them that the art of government is so simple and easy, that it may be left to those who are ignorant, and weak, and wicked. * * * *

" Many other strange and foolish things shall they say in the ears of the people by the mouths of their false prophets.

" And divers of the people shall, in the simplicity of their hearts, listen unto them, and shall be persuaded, in contradiction to their own feelings, that they are unhappy, and that the country is in distress.

" And those whom they have persuaded by their deluding words, and whom they have bewitched by their sorceries, and who have looked upon him that is possessed by an evil lying spirit, as having a spirit of divination,

ſhall begin to go about idle, and to ſpeak evil of order and of dignities; and to drink, and to curſe, and to ſwear, and to ſtir up diſturbance in the land.

"And the wicked men who have ſet themſelves up for leaders, in the hope of being exalted, ſhall rejoice.

"And it ſhall come to paſs, that when the wiſe men in the land ſhall underſtand theſe things to be ſo, then ſhall they gather themſelves together, and ſhall take counſel how they may defeat their wicked purpoſes.

"And they ſhall requeſt the rulers of the land, and thoſe in authority, to ſuppreſs theſe dangerous machinations; and ſhall ſupport the eſtabliſhed government with unanimity and power.

"The wicked aſſociations ſhall be thus ſuppreſſed, and the promoters thereof ſhall become the deriſion of * * ſhall hide their heads for ſhame. ———————

"And the rulers of the land ſhall rejoice, and their hearts ſhall be lifted up, and they ſhall deviſe mighty things.

"And they ſhall" * * * * * *

Here the tablets became ſo much defaced as to be almoſt totally illegible. They are at preſent in the hands of a ſkilful antiquary, who, if he can trace the characters by any means, will tranſcribe them; and in that caſe they ſhall be faithfully tranſlated, and communicated to the public.

AN ACCOUNT OF A MAN FISH CAUGHT IN ORFORD.

At Orford, in Suffolk, in the reign of Henry I. if we may credit Ralph de Coggeſhal, ſome fiſhermen took in their nets a man fiſh, which anſwered exactly to the outward appearance of the human body, but was rough, and hairy, with a piked beard.

GENEROSITY.

Of late when summer crown'd the genial year,
Yon river roll'd its copious waters clear;
And as its fertilizing current flow'd,
On all the vale a rich increase bestow'd.

It seem'd delighted with the joys it gave;
For all the flow'rs upon its green banks strew'd
Were seen depicted in its lucid wave,
In glowing, smiling, pleasing gratitude.

'Tis thus the gen'rous, opulent, and kind,
The lowly vale of poverty can cheer;
And in their bosom may, reflected, find
The smile that follow'd sorrow's frequent tear:
These share each joy they lib'rally impart,
And taste each bliss that swells the grateful heart.

MARIA.

FRIENDSHIP.

'Tis the soft descending rain,
On the parch'd and ruſset plain,
Which, companion of the spring!
Bids the valley laugh and sing.

'Tis the southern wind that blows,
Friendly 'midst eternal snows;
Gales that cheer the drooping sage,
Op'ning hopes on hopes in age.

'Tis the kind communal dew,
O'er the lily sickly hue;
Pleas'd unknowing, and unknown,
Thus to make the world our own.

'Tis the sun's enliv'ning ray,
Driving night's sad shade away,
Cheering the bewilder'd swain,
Who despair'd to live again.

HORACE BOOK I. ODE XXXVIII. TRANSLATED.

My boy I hate the Persian feast,
The pomp, the splendour of the east;

Their garlands wove with art divine,
Around my temples ne'er ſhall twine.
Ceaſe then to ſeek in autumn's bow'rs,
The ling'ring bloom of dying flow'rs.

Nor be thy care on aught display'd,
Except a wreath of myrtle made;
The ſimpleſt branch becoming ther,
Is good enough, my boy, for me;
And this alone ſhall form the bow'r,
Where Horace ſpends his ſocial hours. SIMPLEX.

TO THE RED BREAST.

MELODIOUS tenant of the leafy ſpray,
Thy plaintive muſic ſoothes my lonely hour;
When, as meek twilight ſpreads its curtain grey,
I ſeek retirement's ſolitary bow'r.

The gayer ſongſters of the feather'd train,
With day's declining radiance have fled;
Nor ſwell in variant lays their woodland ſtrain,
But ſtretch their tir'd wings o'er their downy bed.

And thou alone, of all the tuneful choir,
Remain'ſt to cheer the ev'ning with a ſong;
Whoſe artleſs notes ſuch pleaſing thoughts impart,
I wiſh thee ſtill their warblings to prolong:
With joy their livelier minſtrelsy I hear,
And with each ſad note ſhed a ſofter tear.

ALOUETTE.

AN EPIGRAM.

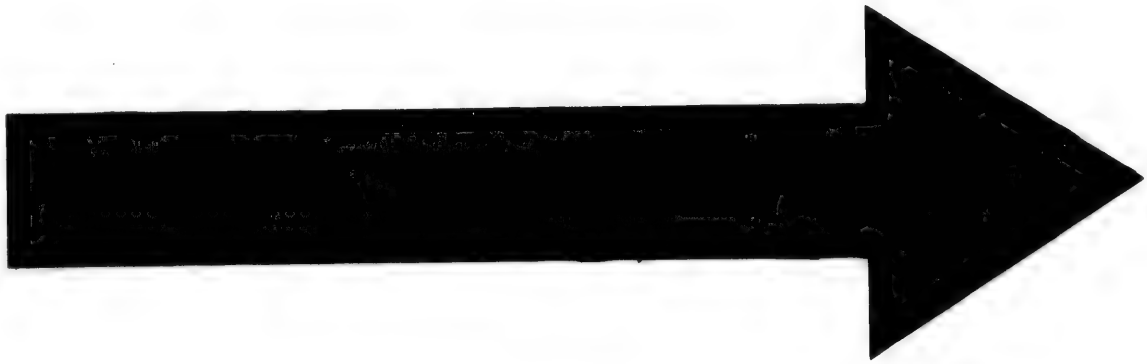
A FAWNING ſwain among the fair,
Their ſmiles and favour wiſh'd to ſhare;
But ſtill declin'd the nuptial chain,
And Cupid always ſhot in vain.

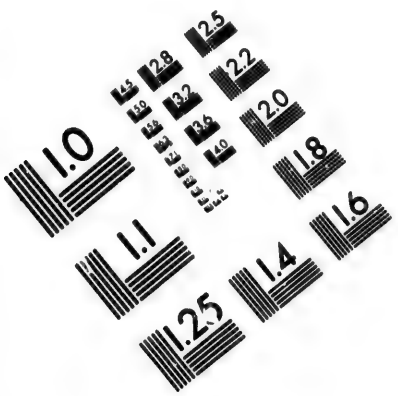
When Julia's features met his eyes,
You are the deſtin'd nymph he cries;
Her heart he won, ſhe gave conſent,
And ſhe on marriage thought him bent.

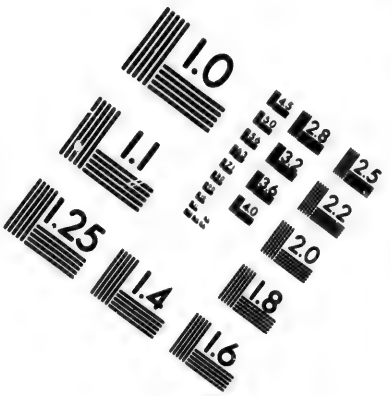
But he, averſe, to get relief,
Swore he could never be her grief;
That he to ſorrow was engag'd,
And left the virgin quite enrag'd.

Jan. 30.

SIMPLEX







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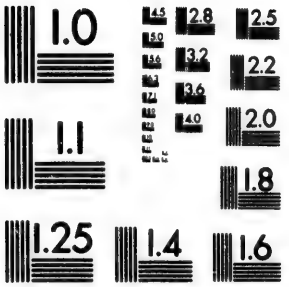

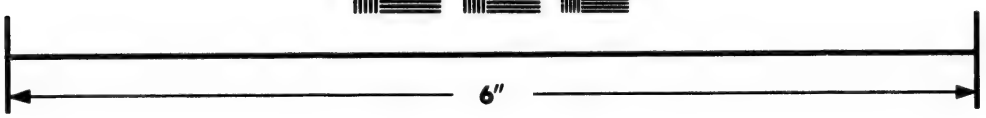

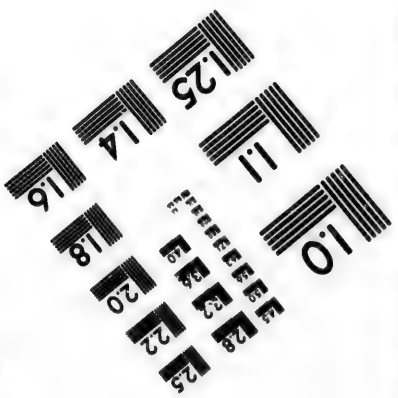

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A Lesson from Adversity. A Tale translated from the French of Marmontel, by a Friend.

For the Bee.

"Admitting the action to have been in every view criminal, he may have been hurried into it through inadvertency and surprise.

"He may have sincerely repented, and the virtuous principle may have now regained its full vigour. Perhaps this was the corner of frailty; the quarter on which he lay open to the incursions of temptation, while the other avenues of his heart were firmly guarded by conscience."

Blair.

It is a noble and generous courage which braves death, or overcomes adversity; but there is also another sort, more uncommon, and not leſs to be admired. I will give an example of it, in relating what Mr Watelet told me one day as we were walking in his delightful ſhrubbery at Moulin Joli. Watelet is one of the few men of our age who has best planned his mode of life for enjoying happineſs. He has followed taste in all its varieties. He was an admirer of all the arts, and invited to his house men of letters and artists; he was an artist and man of letters himself, not with that brilliant succeſs which awakens and excites envy; but with those moderate abilities which solicit indulgence, and which, without eclat, without storms, obtain esteem; and not ambitious of praise, amuse the leisure of a modest solitude, or of a well tempered society; prudent enough to confine to that circle all praise, and not to seek from the public either admirers or detractors. Add to these advantages, a singular sweetneſs of manners, a delicate sensibility, and a continued attention to keep the self-love of others at peace with his own, and you will then have the idea of a life voluptuously innocent. Such was the life of Watelet.

All the world is acquainted with the philosophical retreat he had formed on the banks of the Seine, called Moulin Joli. I went there sometimes.—One day I found there a young married couple that had been lately united, and charmed with each other. The man was young, the wife scarce eighteen years old. Watelet seemed to partake of their happineſs, and their looks returned him thanks for it. As they spoke French as purely as we did, I was surprised at hearing them say they were setting out for Holland, and that they were come that day to take leave. When they had left the room after dinner, I had the curiosity to inquire who this happy and grateful pair were.

Watelet took me to a corner of his enchanted island; and, being seated, "Listen, (said he,) and you will see Honour saved from ſhipwreck by Virtue. In an expedition I made to Holland, solely to examine a country which man disputes with the ocean, and which commerce enriches almost in spite of nature, I was recommended to a rich merchant called Odelman, who was as hospitable in his house, as he was economical in his commerce. In his country house, and at his table, I met a young Frenchman, whose figure was as interesting as he was diffident. He was known in Holland by the name of Oliver. Odelman, plain in his manners, treated him as his friend, or as his equal. But in vain; the young man, with a most respectful dignity of manners, kept to his situation; and you would have said of him, that his behaviour was that of a most attentive son, who did his duty through affection alone. He seemed touched with my advances; and he replied with a noble, though modest air, his eyes cast down, and bluſhes on his cheeks. At dinner he spoke but little; yet it was done with such choice of expreſsions and decency, that it was clear he had been very well educated. In the evening he came and offered his services

in the most obliging manner. I did not make an abuse of them, but only desired he would have the goodneſs to give me his advice and opinion respecting the details of my expences and some trifling purchases; which he complied with in the most engaging manner. I endeavoured to learn from him what had brought him to Holland; he answered, 'Misfortunes:' but I perceived he did not choose to explain himself more at large. He paſsed with me every moment he could spare, with a complaisance that my curiosity sometimes fatigued, but never tired.

"He informed me of every thing interesting relative to Holland; and pointed out her different connections with the various parts of the world, existing only by art, and occupied, without relaxation, in supporting and defending her dikes and her liberty. Grateful to his new country, he spoke of her with feeling, that his melancholy rendered more touching, though not unmixed with remembrances and regrets. 'Ah! (said he,) if France would but do the fourth part to aſsist nature which Holland does to conquer her!!' And in her manners, laws, policy, and her laborious and painful industry, he made me admire the wonderful prodigies that neceſsity will operate.

"You may easily gueſs that I felt a strong affection for him. "What an interesting young man! (said I to Odelman.) How much am I obliged to him! It was you, I imagine, that desired him to ſhow me so many attentions." 'Not in the least, (replied he;) you are a Frenchman, and he adores his country. But I am very happy that he has given her up, for ſhe has not many such subjects. He emulates every thing you can imagine estimable;—fidelity, understanding, constant application, a spirit of order, and a clear sightedneſs that nothing escapes, and above all an economy!! Ah! it is he who knows the value of money!'

This part of his eulogium did not please me; and, as an excuse for him, I observed, "that persons who had been unfortunate might be allowed to be covetous." 'Covetous! (replied the Dutchman,) he is not so in the least; so far from it, that I am convinced the money of others never tempted him. He is only careful of his own; and in that respect he is so parsimonious, that my countrymen are even amazed at his refinement and knowledge.' "Nevertheleſs, (said I,) he does not in any way discover an interested mind; he speaks of your riches, and of that of Holland, without any cupidity." 'O! no; I told you before he is not covetous. I have never seen in him that anxiety which is the soul of commerce. I have often proposed to him to risque in my traffic the profits which accrue to him, but in vain; his answer always has been, What little I can get is of absolute neceſsity to me. Sometimes I have prevailed on him to risque very small sums in bottomry; but he has been so cruelly agitated until the veſsels returned, that he has lost his sleep. His character is that of the ant. Contented with what he can gain by his own labour, he never complains of not gaining more; and, with a noble air, keeping all he can get, he has the appearance of wanting nothing. For example, you see him well dreſsed. Would you believe it? that blue coat, on which no dust has been suffered to lie: —he has had only that coat these six years. These last days he has done me the honour to dine with me,— nothing is more uncommon; yet it has been his own fault not to dine here every day. But he loves to confine himself to what is alone absolutely neceſsary, and even here that he saves. But what surprises me the most, is the profound secret he keeps as to the employment of his money. I at first suspected that he had a mistreſs, who spared him the trouble of hoarding up, but his constant

good and regular conduct destroyed that idea. What I believe, is, that impatient to return to his own country, he sends his money there, and hides from me his anxious wish to go there and enjoy it. As this appeared to me quite simple, and was noble, I had the same idea. But before I left Holland, I learnt better how to value this rare and virtuous young man.

"My dear countryman, (says I,) the day he took leave of me, I return to Paris; shall I bear the chagrin to be of no service to you there? I have given you the pleasure to oblige me as much as you pleased, do not refuse to give me my revenge, I beg of you." 'No! Sir, (replied he,) I will give it you; and in exchange for those little services, of which you exaggerate the value, I will this evening wait on you to request the most important to me in this world. I tell you before hand, it is a secret which I shall trust in your breast; but I am in no pain about it, for your name alone is a sufficient guarantee.' I promised him to keep it faithfully; and that evening he came to my apartment with a small box full of gold. 'Here, (says he,) are five hundred louis d'ors, the savings of three years; and a note signed by me, will point out the uses they are destined for; in paying them, you will have the goodness to take up the notes of hand, and forward them to me.'

"After the gold had been carefully told, I read the note, which was signed Olion Salvary. What was my surprize at finding only articles of luxury!—a thousand crowns to a jeweller, a thousand to an upholsterer, an hundred louis d'ors for millinery, as much for laces, and the remainder to a perfumer. 'I surprize you, (said he,) you do not see all. —— I have, thank heaven, already paid for three hundred louis d'ors of follies; and it will be some time yet, before I have acquitted every thing. Alas! shall

I tell you that I am a man disgraced in his own country, and I am labouring here to wash out the spot which blackens my name? In the mean time, I may die; and, what is worse, die in debt and disgrace. I call you, Sir, to be my witness of the efforts I am making to overcome my misfortune and disgrace. That which I have first told you is a kind of testament, and I beg of you to recollect it, that if I die, you may take some pains to reestablish my character.' "You will live, (cried I,) to make both your misfortunes and your youth be forgotten; but if, to compose your mind, a faithful witness of your feelings and sentiments is only necessary, I am better informed of you than you imagine; and you may freely give me your whole confidence, and finish pouring the contents of your heart into mine."

'I begin by avowing, (said he with a sigh,) that I alone am to blame, and that my faults are without excuse. My profession was among those where the most rigid honesty is essential; and the first law of that honesty is only to dispose of what belongs to each individual personally. I reckoned upon my own strength, and I ought to have counted better; my weak imprudence was not therefore less a crime. This was my manner of acting. A genteel birth; a name that had been well looked on by the public, from the esteem of that public handed down from my ancestors; some successes wherein fortune had well served me, seemed to foretel that my future destiny would be brilliant and rapid. This was the cause of my ruin. A rich man who had calculated upon my success as infallible, M. d'Amene, was bold enough to found the happiness of his daughter on such deceitful hopes. He caused his proposals of an alliance to be made me, and by a mutual attraction, as soon as we were acquainted, we desired to be united. She is now no more! If she ex-

isted, and I was to choose a wife, my choice would fall on her. Yes, I swear that it would be thee alone, my most amiable Adrienne! that I would choose amidst a thousand. Others may have perhaps more beauty; but who could poſſeſs like thee ſuch goodneſs, ſuch tenderneſs, ſuch ſimplicity, ſuch a mind ſo ſtored with virtue and candour!' In addreſſing to her this apoſtrophe, his eyes raiſed to heaven, were bedewed with tears, and ſeemed to ſeek for his kindred ſoul. 'Sir, (added he,) you muſt not impute to her any thing that I have done. The innocent cauſe of my misfortune! ſhe never ſuſpected it; and in the midſt of the illuſions with which I had ſurrounded her, ſhe never ſaw the abyſs to which I was leading her, by a path ſtrewed with flowers. In love with her before marriage, ſtill more in love after poſſeſſion, I never thought I could do enough for her; and, compared with my paſſion, her timid tenderneſs, her ſenſibility, which was governed by modeſty, ſeemed like coldneſs. To make myſelf beloved by her, as much as I loved, I wiſhed, ſhall I own it, to intoxicate her with happineſs; great God! from what paſſion ought we not to defend ourſelves, if it is ſo dangerous to give one's ſelf up to the pleaſure of charming and pleaſing one's wife? A houſe elegantly furniſhed and fitted up; every new whim which fancy, always fertile in its attempts, by dreſs, to make the loveliest ſtill more lovely, were preſented to her, as if by accident; a choſen and picked ſociety were eager to viſit her; in ſhort nothing was wanting to make her home agreeable to her. My wife was too young to think there was any neceſſity for her interference to regulate my expences. Ah! if ſhe had but ſuſpected what I was riſking to please her, with what reſolution would ſhe have oppoſed it! But as ſhe had brought me a handſome portion, ſhe might naturally have imagined, that my circumſtances were

good; ſhe thought at least that my ſituation allowed me to have ſuch an eſtabliſhment, which did not appear to her as improper for one of my rank, and to compare it with others, it was but decent. Adrienne, with her ſweet ingenuouſneſs, often aſked me if I thought ſuch expences neceſſary to make me appear more amiable in her eyes. "I cannot (ſaid ſhe) be inſenſible to all the expences you are at to render me happy; but I ſhould be ſo with you without them. You love me; that is ſufficient to draw upon me the jealouſy of all my young acquaintance. What pleaſure then can it be to you, that you make me add to it by the ſuperior elegance of my dreſs? Leave to them advantages of which I am not envious;—frivolous taſtes, whims, and vain ſuperfluities may be their portion, love and happineſs will be mine."

'This delicacy, which added to her charms, did not however correct me; and I replied that it was for myſelf that I followed the cuſtoms; that that which appeared to her as a luxury, was only a little more elegance; that taſte was never expenſive; and that in doing only what was proper, I ſhould never go beyond juſt bounds. I deceived her,—I deceived myſelf, or rather I bewildered myſelf. I knew that I went beyond the bounds of my preſent circumſtances; but very ſoon my labours would have filled up the void, and in the mean time my wife would have had her enjoyments. Every one applauded the attentions which my love exerted for her happineſs. "*Could I do leſs for her? could I do enough?*" This was the public voice, or at leaſt that of my friends. My father-in-law, alone, ſaw with chagrin this anticipated expence; this emulation of luxury, which was the ruin he ſaid of the moſt ſolid fortunes. He ſpoke to me of it with peeviſhneſs; I replied with good humour, that this emulation ſhould never cauſe me to do any fooliſh act; and that he might rely

on my prudence. I have since known the impression that this respectful manner of parrying his counsels, has had on my father-in-law, and what bitter resentment of it has lodged at the bottom of his soul. The moment approached that was to make me a father; and this moment I expected with the most tumultuous emotions of joy and impatience. I waited for this day as the most fortunate and happy of my life; it turned out the most wretched;—it tore from me the mother and the child! I was overwhelmed by its weight into the abyss of misery! I will not pretend to describe it, or how long it lasted.—There are situations that are not to be described, and to know them, they must be felt!

'I was still overpowered by my losses, when the father of my wife, with some other words of condolence, informed me by his attorney, that the deed was drawn for me to sign, and return to him my wifes's portion; (this is, or was the custom in France.) Indignant at such haste, I replied, that the money was ready, and the next day it was paid into his hands. But the diamonds, the jewels which I had bought myself, and given to his daughter, the costly furniture in her dressing room, became also his spoil; he had the right of seizing them. However I represented to him, that after only eighteen months of marriage, it would be cruel to push the law to its rigour. But he, with the eagerness of an heir, made use of his right. I yielded. This harsh exertion made a noise; and then those that were envious of my former happiness, alas of such short durability! eager to punish me for it, under pretext of pitying me, made my ruin as public and notorious as possible.

To be continued.

LITERARY OLLA. NO. II.

For the Bee.

Extract of another letter from Sir J. F. Nov. 10. 1781.

"I find myself to be a very blundering fellow, who, for want of memory, often leave undone the things that I ought to do. I shall not just now mention my blunders in the opposite way; but to prevent an error of the first sort, I will, while it is fresh in my head, mention an important disquisition, that would probably be totally neglected, if I did not take the critical minute.

"I am reading the memoirs of Russia, by general Manstein.

"The brave earl of Crawfurd made the campaign of 1738 along with the Russians.

"It had been concerted, that the earl should correspond with his Britannic majesty, but address his letters to the duke of Newcastle.

"Lord Crawfurd's accounts of the military business are extremely curious and distinctly accurate.

"I read a copy of them, by favour of the late general Leslie, brother to lord Rothes, but under engagements of not taking a copy; because they might be intended for publication by the family of Crawfurd, from the circumstance of their doing great credit to their relation.

"The persons concerned in both the campaign, and the history, being all dead, the letters may be justly considered as a curious historical morsel, which may be irretrievably lost, if not soon exempted from its present precarious situation.

"I died several years ago, as I have often told you, and, therefore, mouldered away like other perishable crea-

tures of the vegetable structure, upon the very spot where I first sprung up. But I hope that you, who are alive, and vigourously flourishing, will have a just regard to the appearance of a baronet's ghost, that points out where a treasure may be found by a little careful digging.

" The publishing of these letters, while the facts and persons are yet pretty fresh in the heads of many, would do honour to the family of Lindsay Crawfurd, and be translated speedily into all the languages of Europe.

" Remember that I expect for this hint, a present of a copy of the letters, in Russian leather, to be laid upon my tomb when published.

" Every year of delay, however, will bring rust on the subject, and lessen the celebrity of the publication.

" Remember the opinion that was given to you, when but a stripling in literature, by my learned and excellent relation, lord Hailes, ' That it was in the free and undisguised correspondence of the great actors on the stage of history, that one ought to look for the true *res gestæ*, and characters of men, and not in the hireling histories of paritzans, or negociators with booksellers for mutual advantage.'

" I have been trying, like you, to pick up some real Scottish history, among the fables of the saints, and among others that of St Columba, which one may often do with success; as in many cases there was no secular temptation to prevaricate or disguise.

" In making this research, some very funny particulars have occurred, with which I am inclined at this moment to disturb your philosophical gravity.

" I will mention two miracles of St Columba, in one of which he was agent, and in the other only the object.

" A perverse female, hating her husband, would not partake of conjugal benevolence. The good natured

saint changed her hatred to love; so that, says the author*, "*Illa maritalis concubitus debita quæ prius reddere renuebat, nullo modo deinceps recusaret.*" Which benevolent miracle, no doubt contributed much to the satisfaction and consolation of the parties concerned.

"*2dly*, A horse, who probably had been much edified by observing the devout life of the saint, wept most bitterly at his death; nor is this without example, though Scotch horses do not commonly shed tears now a days; for we have the authority of Virgil that Pallas's horse wept.

"Post bellator equus, positis insignibus Æthon
"It lachrymas, guttisque humectat grandibus ora.

"And why a Scotch horse may not weep for the death of a first rate preacher, as well as an Italian horse for the death of a fighter, no reason can be assigned.

"On the death of a king of the Scots, Columba, who (as it appears had a great sway in public affairs,) was very desirous of giving the preference to the younger son, in opposition to Aidan, who was the eldest. But for this offence he was severely cudgelled by an angel! Columba was schismatic, not having kept Easter on the same day with *infallible Rome*. He died Dec. 9. *anno* 598.

"Accept of all this drollery with your usual good humour."

I take it to be a great advantage that one can amuse one's self with an old idle story in these stormy times.

I look on myself as a ship that has got into a safe harbour and sees a large fleet distressed in a hurricane.

* Adamnanus.

Acknowledgements to correspondents deferred for want of room.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1793.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

HAPPENING lately to be summoned as a juror on the trial of three men that were tried here a few days ago for seditious practices, and raising a sort of riot; and thinking it necessary in the event, of being put on the special assize, which I was accordingly, to know something of the law in these matters, I threw together a few notes for my own satisfaction. On looking them over, I thought there was something in them that might perhaps be of use to others, and therefore resolved to send them to you. But not being in the profession of the law, I had great diffidence of their justice and propriety. If you think they will suit your excellent and useful publication, you are welcome to them; and you are at full liberty to alter or abridge them, as will best answer your purpose, as it is not from the vanity of writing that they are sent. I am yours, *&c.*

Dumfries, Jan. 23. 1793. NERVA.

Short notes on the crimes of TREASON, SEDITION, RIOTING, &c.

By act of parliament, 1707, the year before the Union, it is statuted that the laws respecting treason shall be the same over the united kingdoms; so from that time the laws of England, respecting treason, take place in Scotland.

The statute fifth of the twenty-fifth of Edward III. cap. ii. is that which regulates the crime of treason and all its dependencies, *viz.* misprision, or concealment of treason, sedition, rioting, leasingmaking, libels, *&c.*

High treason consists in imagining the death of the king, queen, or prince; violating the queen or princess royal; levying war against the king; adhering to his enemies; counterfeiting the great seal; killing the supreme judges; counterfeiting the coin, *&c.*

The statute of Edward III. requires some open deed, or ouvert act, manifesting the crime; and the pains and forfeitures consequent on treason, are, by the above act 1707, declared to be the same in Scotland as in England.

Sedition, or raising commotions or disturbances in the state, if aimed directly against the sovereign or state, is construed by law to amount to high treason. If raised only to redress private grievances, is reckoned a breach of the public peace, and is punished arbitrarily.

Sedition is either real or verbal. Real, is the irregular convocation of a number of people, in a

riotous manner, tending to disturb the public peace. Verbal sedition, termed by our law leasingmaking, is the uttering of seditious words, tending to breed hatred or discord between the king and his people.

By statute second of the first of George I. cap. v. called the *riot act*, all persons assembling to the number of twelve, and being required by a magistrate to separate, shall continue together for an hour after, shall suffer death and confiscation of moveables.

Verbal sedition was capital by our old laws; but by the act of Anne 1703, it is declared punishable by imprisonment, fine, or banishment, at the direction of the judge.

The lord advocate of Scotland, and his deputies, are the proper prosecutors of the crime of treason before the supreme courts; as the procurator fiscal is before the sheriff and other inferior magistrates.

The trial is to be by indictment, jury, and all the proper forms of criminal prosecution; with every indulgence to the prisoner, of counsel, exculpatory evidence, &c.

The jury is to consist of fifteen sworn men, picked out of a greater number, not exceeding forty-five, summoned by the sheriff, and given in list.

Neither these, nor other crimes, can be proved by the defender's oath; because the law forces no man to condemn himself, and of the great temptation to perjury.

These crimes, like others, are proved by writings, confession, or witnesses. No extrajudicial confession can be admitted as evidence, unless adhered to in

presence of the Inquest. And all qualities adjected by a pannel to his confeſion, ought to be received as a part of it.

All relevant objections againſt witneſſes are to be received. *Socii criminis*, or aſſociates in the crime, which are properly rejected in many other inſtances, are admitted in the caſe of treaſon.

A ſingle witneſs to each circumſtance is reckoned ſufficient evidence where a crime is to be proved by a number of circumſtances connected together, each of which makes part of the ſame criminal act.

By act twenty-firſt of George II. cap. xix. the reducing the depoſitions of witneſſes into writing is dispenſed with, which was our old cuſtom. The jury now generally keep notes themſelves.

The verdicts of the jury are either general or ſpecial. A general verdict finds, in general terms, that the pannel is guilty or not guilty; or that the libel or defences are proved or not proved.

A ſpecial verdict finds ſome ſpecial facts, contained in the libel, proved, without determining their effect; but leaving the import to be determined by the judge.

Although the proper buſineſs of a jury may be thought to be to inquire into the truth of facts, it is certain and allowed, that, in many caſes, they are alſo judges of law and relevancy.

All the authors on the laws of England and Scotland, have treated of treaſon. But the moſt approved writers on this crime are Mr Erſkine for the law of Scotland, in the fourth book of his large work, entitled "Crimes." And for the law of Eng-

land, Sir William Blackstone, in the fourth book of his Commentaries, entitled, "Public Wrongs;" and the author of a treatise, entitled "Principles of Penal Laws," in the chapter on Treason, and the following sections connected with it.

The author of the Principles of Penal Law, says, that the crime of treason is of such a nature, as to require the *ultimum supplicium*, or the extirpation of the criminal; but every step beyond this is a trace of barbarity. Public utility is the measure of human punishment; and the idea of vindictive justice is shocking and unnatural.

The same author says, humanely, that the positive testimony of a thousand witnesses, to the positive allegation of the indictment, is not conclusive, in any case, as to the verdict of the jurors; but they still retain an unquestionable right to *acquit* the person accused, if in their private opinions they disbelieve the accusers; or if, in their consciences, they think, however erroneously, that the fact partakes not of that degree or species of criminality, with which it is charged in the indictment.

Sir William Blackstone says, that speaking or writing against the king's person and government; cursing, or wishing him ill; giving out scandalous stories concerning him; denying his right to the crown in common conversation; or denying that the common laws of the realm ought to direct the right to the crown, are all *contempts and misprisions*, for which the delinquent may be fined, imprisoned, or put in the pillory.

The same author says, that the jury in all criminal cases, may return a verdict, either general, *guilty* or *not guilty*; or special, setting forth all the circumstances of the case, and praying the judgement of the court. This is where they doubt the matter of law, and therefore choose to leave it to the determination of the court; though they have an unquestionable right of determining on all the circumstances, if they think proper.

Sir William Blackstone, Mr de Lolme, and all the writers on the laws and constitution of this country, hold the liberty of the press as one of the most prizeable characteristics of the British constitution. If a man may write and publish his sentiments of the political establishment, he may certainly hold the same doctrines in private conversation with equal impunity.

In the late bill brought into parliament respecting libels, which may in some measure resemble the crime of reviling government, lord Cambden laid it down as an indisputable principle, that the jury were the judges of both the *law* and the *fact*.

In the late trial of Thomas Paine, for publishing his "Rights of Man," the attorney general insisted, "That the book was written with a view to vilify, degrade, and to bring into abhorrence and contempt all the establishments of this country, in all the departments of state, and with the professed purpose of making the lower classes of the people disaffected to government," and therefore that the author was highly actionable.

Mr Erſkine, in defence, contended, that in order to conſtitute Mr Paine's guilt, it muſt be proved, "That he ſat down to write a book againſt the conſtitution which he admired and loved, with the diabolical intention of provoking diſcord and ſedition in the country." It was not ſufficient that he had wrote a book againſt the conſtitution; it muſt be proved that he wrote it with a hoſtile intention.

Mr Erſkine farther laid it down as the law of this country, that a man may freely addreſs, to the univerſal reaſon of a whole nation, principles of government congenial with, or hoſtile to the form of government under which he lives; he may diſcuſs the forms of that government; he may ſtate what he thinks to be wrong in the original conception; he may trace the gradual progreſs of decay, or of conception; he may point out the conſequences; he may warn the people of their fate. In all this he is not the ſubject of criminal proſecution, unleſs he ſhall teach it as a doctrine, that any individual may oppoſe the law of the land, and reſiſt the legal authority.

He ſays, finally, that the freedom of the preſs conſiſts in this, that a man muſt not, on the ſpur of the occaſion, addreſs to individuals, opinions that ſhall provoke them to ſedition or inſurrection.

All the great Engliſh lawyers, lord chief juſtice Vaughan, Sir Matthew Hale, Sir John Holt, juſtice Foſter, lord chief juſtice Pratt, lord Hardwicke, *&c.* appear to be on the ſide of the priſoner, in caſes of treaſon, or crimes againſt the ſtate. Sir Matthew Hale ſays, "We muſt acquieſce in reſolutions when made and ſettled; but in my opinion, if new caſes happen, that are not expreſsly within the *words* of

the statute of Edward III. it is the safest way to consult parliament, and to be very wary in multiplying constructive treasons."

In ancient times, when our laws had not advanced to the degree of perfection to which they are arrived at present, and when counsel were denied to persons accused of treason, the mild tendency and spirit of the laws of England was manifested in the benevolent adage, "That the judge shall always be counsel for the prisoner;" which prevails to this day.

The evidence of words alleged to have been spoken by the person accused, and connected with the criminality of the charge, ought to be received with great distrust. Words may be very innocent when spoken, and very criminal when related; as their determinate signification depends much on the tone in which they are uttered. Says Montesquieu, "It often happens, that, in repeating the same words, a different meaning is conveyed, which depends on their connection with other things; and sometimes more is signified by silence, than by any expression whatever." Spirit of Laws book 12. cap. xii.

On this subject there is an excellent observation, "That the political liberty of every individual bears a proportion to the security given by the laws to the innocency of his conduct; which security decreases in proportion to the multiplication of penalties, the uncertainty of penal laws, and the irregularity of trials."

The science of government has been wonderfully improved in the course of a century. Formerly government resembled a chain of fetters, thrown round

the people, the end of which was held by the hand of the sovereign. It is now the will of the people, voluntarily surrendering a part of their natural right into the hands of the prince, for the common good of the whole. In return for the power conferred, he gives protection and civil liberty.

This revolution has been brought about by the writings of a set of enlightened philosophers, who have lately appeared in this, and some of the neighbouring countries of Europe. These are, in our own country, Locke, Hume, lord Kaimes, Sir James Steuart, and Dr Smith. In France, Montesquieu, Turgot, Voltaire, Rouſseau, and Raynal; and Beccaria in Italy; with many others of different nations.

The late emperor Leopold II. when grand duke of Tuscany, was perhaps the first prince who ſhewed himself at once a philosopher and a statesman, in enacting a mild code of criminal laws, from which the puniſhment of death was entirely excluded; and different degrees and durations of confinement were aſsigned to crimes of the greatest enormity.

Even despotic princes, otherwise arbitrary in their proceedings, have often wisely ſhewed themselves superior to taking notice of what might be called libels. It is well known that the late king of Pruſsia permitted the full freedom of writing and speaking on his own conduct; and that affairs of government were no where canvaſsed with greater liberty than at Berlin. And it is said further, that the king took pleasure in seeing what was said against him.

It is the infallible characteristic of a weak prince, and a bad government, when they are afraid of having their proceedings canvaſsed by the people. When Henry VIII. forbade all his subjects to speak well or ill of his government, it was a certain symptom of his being conscious that there was some defect in it. And James II. sending the biſhops to the Tower, for giving an opinion on some acts of administration, was a prelude to that prince's expulsion from the throne.

Without saying whether the French revolution is likely to prove advantageous or hurtful to that country, it may be safely said, that the horrors of the Bastile*, and of lettres de cachet, and some other enormities in the French government, were the prime motives which led to the revolution, aided, no doubt, by the general principles of liberty, which about that time began to be diſseminated through Europe.

Other nations seem to take example from what has lately happened; and all states appear to aim at softening the rigour of puniſhments. Even Ruſsia, hitherto terrible in her puniſhments, has lately mitigated their severity; and in the new system of laws lately promulgated by the present empreſs, there are said to be regulations that would not discredit the criminal code of Great Britain.

It is granted, that notwithstanding the masterly defence of Mr Erſkine, the jury found Paine guilty; but it must be acknowledged that Paine's book contains the most daring and avowed attack on the principles of the Britiſh constitution that ever was pub-

* Is there no reason to suspect that the Bastile, which was only a terror to the aristocracy, was but a *pretext*, a thing held out to catch the people? *Edit.*

lished. It is granted, also, that the three men who were brought to trial in Edinburgh, by the lord advocate, for attempting to seduce the soldiery, were found guilty by the jury; but these men had proceeded to ouvert acts of sedition. In general, however, it is thought, that in matters of smaller consequence it may be more becoming the magnanimity of government to overlook, than to take notice of them. I am yours, *&c.* NERVA *.

SLIGHT SKETCH OF THE CHARACTER OF COUNT HERTSBERG, LATE MINISTER OF FREDERICK THE GREAT, KING OF PRUSSIA, AND OF FREDERICK WILLIAM, HIS SUCCESSOR.

For the Bee.

COUNT HERTSBERG began his political carreer with various diplomatic commissions in the year 1745,

* There is one inconvenience to which the laws respecting libels may give rise, which our ingenious correspondent has overlooked, and which is yet deserving of serious attention, *viz.* the trouble and expence to which individuals may be subjected in case of ill founded prosecutions under pretext of libels. In England, where greater efforts have been made to secure the liberty of the subject, than in any other country, this evil has been guarded against by the law, which ordains that no prosecution of this nature can be commenced until it shall be authorised by the GRAND JURY of the county where the offence has been committed. In Scotland this awful power of commencing prosecutions on libel is vested solely in the breast of ONE man; a power, that, as it doubtless may, from ignorance or caprice, be exercised greatly to the detriment of individuals, who have no very obvious means of obtaining redress where they shall happen thus to suffer unjustly, seems to border too much on the arbitrary system of former ages, to be altogether compatible with the more moderate principles of the present times. A reformation in this respect is therefore devoutly to be wished; for though this power should not be

and the following years, until the peace of Aix la Chapelle; all of which he executed with singular addreſs and nuelity; corresponding with the king himself only, who had the singular honour of being his own minister, and yet without detriment to the welfare of his people.

In the beginning of the seven years war, he was entrusted with the department of secretary for foreign affairs; and he executed this office with great ability, succeſs, and honour, (until he was deprived of his situation by the present king, on the change of his political principles of alliance,) after having concluded, during his long administration, eight solemn and glorious treaties of peace, and superintended all those manifestoes, and other public papers, which have rendered illustrious the reign of Frederick II. *and in the beginning* of that of his succeſsor; contributing by his prudence and talents to ensure his sovereign the general applause of all Europe, by the iſsue of the seven years war, and by the noble stand made against the aspiring ambition of Joseph II. in the busineſs of the Bavarian pact and succeſsion, to save Germany and its league from destruction.

He laid the foundation, during the reign of the late king, for the defeat of the Louvestion faction in Holland; which he afterwards was the instrument of finally accompliſhing, by the full establiſhment of

abused, still the dread of it must produce a bad effect upon the minds of the people of this country in more respects than one. Limited power, we now know, is that alone which has a chance of being permanent, and uniformly exerted in preserving good order and tranquillity in the state. *Edit.*

the Stadtholdman interest in Holland, in the beginning of the reign of the present sovereign.

He moved the alliance with England, and brought to paſs its new continental ſyſtem, ſo advantageous to Pruſsia, by making Britain a party in the quarrels of Germany, to the benefit of his maſter's kingdom, and obtaining for *him*, thereby, the only thing he wanted, a great power at ſea, without any trouble or expence.

He was highly inſtrumental in aſsiſting this great monarch, not only to re-eſtabliſh, and nearly double the population and reſources of his ancient hereditary ſtates; but notwithſtanding the long and bloody wars which were to be encountered, to triple that of his dominions by provinces newly acquired.

It was by the encouragement of agriculture, that theſe noble deſigns were principally accompliſhed; but great expence in public walks, leading to internal and external commerce, was not ſpared under the councils of the generous count Hertſberg.

For a long time, in the new eſtabliſhments that were formed by the advice of the miniſter, all taxes and military enrolments were excuſed, particularly on the Nertze and Wartha, from Drieſen to Kuſtrin; by which means 120,000 acres of good land were brought into cultivation, and 3000 families eſtabliſhed upon the Oder, from Kuſtrin to Oderberg, on the Havel, and the Elbe; on the great lake of Madua in Pomerania; on the ſwamps of the Fiener, in the province of Magdebourg; and in many other places.

Besides this, count Hertſberg promoted and superintended the draining of the bogs of Dromling, by which 120,000 more acres were restored to cultivation, or to useful pasture.

Five hundred and thirty-nine new villages or hamlets were built at the expence of the state, and planted with four thousand six hundred and ninety-nine new families; and not satisfied with this noble conduct, more than a million sterling was gratuitously given by the state, in a course of years, for the establiſhment of the new colonists, and the improvement of the lands.

He advised the king to give upwards of three hundred farms in his majesty's own desmesnes, in *hereditary* lease, to all kinds of cultivators, separating them from all fiscal jurisdiction; *by which a spirited and exemplary mode of agriculture was immediately introduced by the new creation of that glorious tribe of cultivators called yoemen in England!*

Besides the immense sums above mentioned, the immortal Frederick II. distributed, under the ministry of count Hertſberg, prizes and donations to the farmers and manufacturers; and otherwise expended for the improvement of his people and his country, from the year 1763 to 1784, nearly twenty-two millions of German crowns; and of these great, useful, and beneficent actions, the worthy count Hertſberg rendered a full and descriptive account, in his eſsay on population, read by him to the Royal Academy of Sciences and Belles Letters at Berlin, on the 27th of January 1785, being the 74th and last anniversary of the birth of his glorious friend and sovereign, who had two days before performed that

memorable and truly ſentimental ceremony of causing old general Ziethen, who had gathered so many laurels for him, to sit at his levee, in the king's presence; the king and his heir, his brother, his nephew the duke of Brunswick, and all his surviving old generals of the seven years war, standing around him, while the grateful tears of Ziethen were flowing on his venerable countenance; and the king's was illuminated with unextinguiſhed fire, while it was softened by the most beautiful expreſsion of heroic mildneſs, and manly tenderneſs.

After all this noble carreer of Hertſberg, he was forced to retire without any other recompence than the consciousneſs of his virtue and honour.

Since that event, he has dedicated himself to the superintendance of the Academy of Sciences, and to the composition of the annals of Frederick II. which according to his plan, will be one of the noblest works of the kind that the preſs has ever produced. He has also undertaken, (with the academy,) to execute the glorious plan proposed by the great Leibnitz, for the improvement of the German language, for which he could not obtain the patronage of his great master, who was partial to the French language, as tending more to the diffusion of that enlightened philosophy, which, under the auspices of the hero, has made such progreſs on the continent.

Besides these dignified occupations of count Hertsberg, he attends to an experimental farm at his residence in the country, improves the flocks of the Pruſsian dominions, by the introduction of Spaniſh and other fine woolled ſheep, and promotes the cultivation of ſilk. Of these, and other improvements

he has publiſhed some accounts; and every friend to supereminent virtue must join in wiſhing that the venerable count, though now septuagenary, may live many years, to taste of that which awaits his memory, to a distant posterity.

Frederick the Great, and Hertſberg, recal to our remembrance the glorious friendſhip of Henry of Bourbon, and of Sully; and their joint labours for the happineſs of Frenchmen: but with this superiority on the side of the former pair, that *they* created, (as it were,) a new kingdom, and a new people; and eſtabliſhed, or at least greatly promoted, a new æra in Europe, in science and in politics.

A Voltaire, a d'Alembert, a Euler, a Bernoulli, a Condorcet, fostered by a monarch, would alone have been sufficient to have rendered his memory and his glory perpetual; but when to this we add a Hertſberg, and a whole host of patriots, nursed under his care, we ſhall not be able to discover in the annals of mankind any thing approaching to the age of Frederick II.

These considerations and legitimate encomiums are incontrovertible.

They come from a remote corner of the unconquered Caledonia, now dazzling like a little brilliant star among the nebulous constellations of great nations, by whose greatneſs and refinement ſhe was formerly eclipsed.

It is a proud thing to gaze upon the growing splendour of one's family, or one's country! ——— Pleasing to record, as now, the virtues of an illustrious patriot!

A. B. C.

A TABLE OF GEMS.

Continued from p. 168.

Class ninth.

AMETHYST.

HARDNESS 11; SPECIFIC GRAVITY 2,7.

Varieties.

VIOLET of different shades. That inclining to a ROSE COLOUR is most esteemed.

Analysis.

ORIENTAL, H 11;
OCCIDENTAL, Sp Gr 2,7.

Form.

That of the oriental amethyst is the same as the sapphire, *viz.* hexagonal pyramids or columns. We are better acquainted with the form of the occidental, which is hexagonal prisms, sharply pointed, with six facets, sometimes in groups, like the Peru emerald, on a basis of quartz.

Structure, Properties, &c.

The texture is nearly granular according to Kirwan; but other writers pronounce it lamellar, like the other gems. Electric on friction. It loses its colour in a strong heat; but does not melt *per se*; though with borax it gives a colourless glass. No chemical analysis of this stone has been as yet made, that we know of; although not more rare than the others.

Where found.

They are found in Persia, Arabia, America, the West Indies, Spain, Saxony, Bohemia, Italy, *&c.* Ruſsia is rich in this gem; but the Ural and Altai mountains furniſh the best. They are found in many places in the Highlands of Scotland; some of great size, and perfectly clean; sometimes adhering to rock chrystal. And some have been found plaited or crusted upon black chrystal, of considerable thickneſs, which, when struck with a hammer, separates, leaving the black chrystal in its regular form of six sides. The best Scots amethysts are from Invercauld and Strathspey; some from Cairngorum, *&c.*

How valued.

The oriental are valued with rubies. The occidental are valued by Wallerius at three or four dollars *per* carat. The Ruſsian are sold at from fifteen to thirty rubles a ring stone, according to size, colour, beauty, *&c.*

Claſs tenth.

*GARNET.

HARDNESS from 10 to 12; SPECIFIC GRAVITY from 3,6 to 4,4.

Varieties.

GARNET dark red. The SYRIAN or ROCK RUBY, (the AMETHYSTIZONTAS of the ancients,) a purpliſh red. The VERMEILLE of the French, (or SORANUS of the ancients,) red with a cast of yellow. The VIOLET garnet of a beautiful red mixed with violet.

Analysis.

BOHEMIAN GARNET, Sp Gr 4,4; Arg 30; Sil 48; Cal 12; Ir 10*.
MARTIAL, Arg 27,6; Sil 43,6; Cal 10; Ir 19†.
VESUVIAN, Arg 39; Sil 55; Cal 6.

Form.

The form is a globular polygon, varying in the number of its sides; but sometimes rhomboidal or irregular.

Structure, Properties, &c.

Texture laminar. Electric on friction. It melts *per se* into a slag attractable by the magnet.

Where found.

The Syrian garnet of a fine red, inclining to purple, the *amethystizontas* of the ancients, and *rubinovi rocca* of Italy, (from which our Engliſh name of rock ruby,) is the most esteemed of all the species, and is found in Syria, Calcutta, Cananor, Cambaya and Ethiopia. The *vermeille* of the French, and the giacinto *guarnacino* of the Italians, (a name which well defines it colour,) is the fine red garnet inclining to yellow, (the *soranus* of the ancients,) so called from Sorian or Surian in Pegu, where it was then found, and is so still. When this same gem has a cast of brown, it is sold and named a hyacinth. The occidental garnets are commonly of a deep red colour, and softer. Found in Bohemia, the hardest and finest; Hungary, Silesia, Bern, Spain, and Norway, likewise produce them; and Scotland furniſhes a very good sort, though not large, in general, from a micaceous stone. Vesuvius furniſhes a

* Achard.
† They sometimes contain tin, or even lead, but this seldom. *Bergman.*

white polygon globular stone resembling exactly the garnet species, and ranked with them till lately, that it was rejected on account of its containing no iron, the difficulty with which it melts, even with the aid of fluxes, and its superior hardness. Russia produces a great variety of garnets, although but few that merit the name of gems. However, now that the white Vesuvian is rejected from the species, the yellowish white garnet, lately discovered by Mr Laxman in Siberia, stands single and alone of its kind, till chemical analysis shall displace it. Found of a globular polygon form in an argillaceous heatitical matrix, covering a basaltic mountain on the river Vitui, near the mouth of the Achtaragda. These garnets are found, together with a new discovered shorl, described in its proper place in the next order; some of them sticking in the shorl; and even the smaller of these white garnets are sometimes found adhering to the larger, or set in them, in a manner like stones in a ring. Red garnets are found near the lake Baikal, the sources of the lower Ude, &c. and there are brought a number from the granite mountain of Siberia near Selenga. They are found at *Portsoy* in Scotland, embedded in quartz, some an inch and a half in diameter, but seldom clean. From *Inverary* they are not so large.

How valued.

Authors make no mention of the price of garnets, or give any mode of calculating their value. They only tell us that the Syrian is sold as a ruby, under the name of *rubinus Russium*; and the vermielle as a hyacinth.

Class eleventh.

TOURMALINE, or LAPIS ELECTRICUS.

HARDNESS 10; SPECIFIC GRAVITY from 3,065, to 3,295.

Varieties.

Browniſh yellow from CEYLON; green, red, blue, or yellow, from BRAZIL. Dark green, almoſt opaque, from TYROL.

Analyſis.

FROM CEYLON, H 10; Sp Gr from 3,065 to 3,295; Arg 39; Sil 37; Cal 15; Ir 9 *.

BRAZIL, Sp Gr from 3,075 to 3,180; Arg 30; Sil 34; Cal 11; Ir 5 *.

TYROL, Sp Gr from 3,050; Arg 42; Sil 40; Cal 12; Ir 6 *.

Form.

The form is commonly that of polygonal prisms; but the Tyrol tourmaline is amorphous, and of ſo deep a green as to be almoſt opaque. Thoſe from Ceylon and Brazil are generally flat on one ſide; convex and poliſhed on the other. The tourmaline reſembles the ſhorls more than it does any other ſtone; but its chemical analyſis points out a difference: and it has lately been arranged with the gems, both in the Copenhagen edition of Cronſtadt, and in the new edition of that author by Magellan in the Engliſh language. The reaſons which ſeem to have determined mineralogiſts to claſs it in the firſt order of precious ſtones, are three, *viz.* becauſe the argillaceous earth predominates in its compoſition, a leading character of late years; the beauty and tranſparency of ſome of its varieties, which leads it to be worn as ſuch; and its curious and uncommon electric properties, ſo well deſcribed in the celebrated *tentamen Theor. Electric. et Magn.* of his excellency

* Bergman.

the counsellor of state, Æpinus, formerly preceptor to the great duke of Ruſsia.

Structure, Properties, &c.

The texture laminar. It melts *per se* into a black frothy slag; and borax diſsolves it better than microcosmic salt or mineral alkali. But the curious property which distinguiſhes it from all the other gems, is, that when heated to about 200 of Farenheit, or 75 of Reaumure's thermometer, it gives signs of contrary electricity at its two poles.

Where found.

They are found transparent in Ceylon and Brazil; almost opaque in Tyrol, in beds of steatites and lapis ollaris.

How valued.

This curious gem has been only known in Europe since 1717, when Lemery first produced it in the royal academy of sciences at Paris. The value of the fine transparent varieties from Ceylon and Brazil is very considerable; but we are ignorant of the exact price. Those from Tyrol are cheaper.

To be continued.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

GREATNESS of mind, and little suspicions, do not usually dwell together in the same breast. But it is a noble disappointment when we mistake another's heart from the integrity of our own.

The not answering letters to any one is never justifiable. To a superior, such a neglect is madneſs; to an equal an unpardonable impoliteneſs; but to an inferior the height of ignoble insolence.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

BY inserting the following verses in your publication of the Bee, you will oblige your constant reader, P. P.

Leeds, Nov. 21. 1793.

MUNG O'S ADDRESS.

THANK you my maſſas!—Have you laugh your fill?
Then let me speak, nor take that freedom ill.
E'en from my tongue, some heartfelt truths may fall,
For outrag'd nature claims the care of all.
My tale in any place would force a tear,
But calls for stronger, deeper feelings here;
For whilst I tread on free born British land,
Whilst now before me crowded Britons stand,
Vain, vain, that glorious privilege to me,
I am a slave, when all things else are free.
Yet was I born, as you are, no man's slave,
An heir to all that lib'ral nature gave;
My thoughts can reason, and my limbs can move
The same as yours; like yours my heart can love.
Alike my body, food and sleep sustains;
Alike our wants, our pleasures, and our pains:
One sun rolls o'er us, common skies surround,
One globe supports us, and one grave must bound.
Why then am I devoid of all to live,
That manly comforts to a man can give?
To live untaught religion's soothing balm,
Or life's choice arts, unknowing still the calm
Of soft domestic ease,—those sweets of life,
The duteous offspring and the tender wife.
To live to property and rights unknown,
Not e'en the common benefits my own;
No arm to save me from oppreſsion's rod,
My will subservient to a tyrant's nod;
No gentle hand, when life is in decay,
To soothe my cares, or charm my pains away;
But helpleſs left, to quit the horrid stage,
Harraſs'd in youth, and desolate in age.
But I was born on Afric's tawny strand,
And you on fair Britannia's fairer land.
Comes freedom then from colour? bluſh with shame,
And let strong nature's crimson mark your blame!
I speak to Britons, Britons now behold
A man by Britons snar'd, and seiz'd, and sold;
And yet no British statute damns the deed,
Nor do the more than murd'rous villians bleed:

O! sons of freedom, equalise your laws,
Be all consistent, plead a negro's cause;
That all the nations, in your code may see
The British negro, like the Briton free.
But should he supplicate your laws in vain,
To break for ever this disgraceful chain,
At least let gentle usage so abate
The galling terror of his pafsing state,
That he may share the great Creator's social plan,
For though no Briton still Mungo is a man!

A SIMILE.

[*An extract from Darwin's Botanic Garden.*]

So when the mother, bending o'er his charms,
Clasps her fair nurseling in delighted arms;
Throws the thin kerchief from her neck of snow,
And half unveils the pearly orbs below,
With sparkling eye, the blameleſs plunderer owns
Her soft embraces, and endearing tones,
Seeks the salubrious fount with open lips,
Spreads his inquiring hands, and smiles, and sips.
Connubial fair! whom no fond transport warms,
To lull your infant in maternal arms;
Who, bleſs'd in vain, with tumid bosoms, hear
His tender wailings with unfeeling ear;
The soothing kiſs, and milky rill deny
To the sweet pouting lip, and glist'ning eye!—
Ah! what avails the cradle's damask roof,
The cider bolster, and embroider'd woof!—
Oft hears the gilded couch unpitying plains,
And many a tear, the tasell'd cushion stains!
No voice so sweet attunes his soul to rest;
So soft no pillow as his mother's breast!—
Thus charm'd to sweet repose, when twilight hours
Shed their soft influence on celestial bow'rs,
The cherub, Innocence, with smile divine,
Shuts his sweet wings, and sleeps on Beauty's shrine.

THE DISCONSOLATE SWAIN.

I left my social bowl and friend,
My books, my cot, and daisied grove,
In hopes Maria would prove kind,
And taste with me the sweets of love.

These hopes, alas! are now no more,
My vows and love she met with scorn;
My friends are dead, my books are torn,
My rural cot and grove's forlorn.

A LESSON FROM ADVERSITY. A TALE TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF MARMONTEL.

Continued from p. 189.

'MY friends had not the same eagerneſs to save me as my enemies to hurt me. They decided I had been in too great a hurry to enjoy. This was certainly true; but they thought so too late; it ought to have been told me at my entertainments. But you, Sir, who know the world, know what indulgence it ſhews to ſpend-thrifts until their fall. Mine was now public; and diſtruſt having ſeized my creditors, they came upon me in a body. I wiſhed not to deceive them; I explained my whole ſituation, and offered them all I poſſeſſed, only requiring a delay to pay them in full all their demands. Some of them ſeemed willing to accept my time; but the others, alluding to the fortune of my father-in-law, ſaid it behoved him to deſiſt, and ſeizing his daughter's portion, jewels, *&c.* had robbed them of their dues. How ſhall I tell you the end of this? I was reduced to the choice of eſcaping from their purſuit, blowing my brains out, or being dragged to priſon.

'It is here, Sir!—it is that terrible night which I paſſed between the anguiſh of deſpair and of ſhame!—between ruin and death!—it is this which ought for ever to ſerve as an example. A young man, naturally well diſpoſed, and well educated, whoſe only crime was having reckoned upon too ſlight expectations; this man, hitherto eſteemed, honoured, formed to make a rapid and certain fortune, by a road as eaſy as it was ſure, in an inſtant marked with infamy, devoted to contempt, condemned to quit life, or to paſs it in baniſhment or in priſon; diſowned by his

father-in-law; abandoned by his friends; not daring to appear or own himself; and too happy, if, in some solitary cavern, he could hide himself from all mankind!! It was in the midst of such horrors I paſsed the tempest of a whole night. I still ſhudder at the recollection of it! and neither my head, nor my heart, have ever fully recovered the ſhock of it. I do not exaggerate when I teſi you, that in the convulsions of my grief, I sweated blood. At last, this terrible acceſs having worn my spirits, a more horrid calm ſucceeded. I examined the depth of the abyſs wherein I had fallen, and then felt that cold courage take poſſeſsion of me to destroy myself. Let me examine well, said I to myself, this my last resolution; if I suffer myself to be taken and put in irons, I die diſhonoured, without resource, and without hope. It is most certainly much better a thousand times to free myself from an odious life, and cast myself into the arms of a God, who will aſsuredly pardon me for not having been able to survive a diſgraceful misfortune. My pistols were loaded, and on the table; and in looking at them with a fixed eye, nothing appeared to me more easy than to finiſh every thing that moment. Yes! but how many ſcoundrels would have done the same? how many mean and worthleſs beings may have had, like me, the courage of despair? and what will waſh off the blood I am going to drown myself in? My opprobrium, will it remain the leſs upon my tomb, if I ſhall have one? and my name, diſgraced by the law, will be buried with me. What am I saying? Wretch! I am thinking on my diſgrace, and what will expiate the crime? I am anxious to escape from life; but is it not rather to escape from myself, and to frustrate again those to whom I owe myself? when I ſhall be no more, who will make them amends for the robbery I have committed? who will justify this abuse of confidence? who will even solicit pardon for the young and thoughtleſs prodigal, for having diſ-

sipated a fortune which did not belong to him? Ah! let me die, if it is not possible for me to regain that esteem and honour which I have lost! But at my age, with labour and time, is it utterly impossible for me to make amends for the deeds of my youth, and to have my misfortune forgiven? Then reflecting on the resources that remained to me, I fancied I saw my honour appear from behind the cloud which obscured it, if I had courage sufficient to bear up against my present situation. I went to Holland; but before I set out, I wrote to my creditors, telling them, that in giving up all I possessed to them my time and labour would be employed in their service, and I conjured them to have some little patience.

'On my arrival at Amsterdam, my first care was to inquire, who among the richest merchants had the fairest character, and was most respected. As every one united in the opinion of Odelman, I went to his house. 'Sir, (said I to him,) a stranger, persecuted by misfortunes, flies to you for refuge, and comes to ask you if he must sink under them; or whether, by dint of labour and perseverance, he can conquer and survive them? I have neither a protector, nor any security, to recommend me to you. I hope in time not to have any need of either. In the mean time, I beg of you to dispose of a young man, well educated, tolerably well informed, and full of willingness.'

'Odelman, after having heard and considered me with attention, asked who had directed me to him. The public voice, I replied. In coming to this country, I inquired who was esteemed the best and most respectable citizen, all the world named you. In my language, and in my countenance, a certain character of pride and resolution, which misfortune gives to enterprising minds, appeared to strike him. He was discreet in his questions; I was sincere but reserved in my answers. At last, without be-

traying my ſecret, I ſaid enough to diſſipate his diſtruſt, and he conſented to give me a trial; but without any appointment. He ſoon perceived he had not in his counting houſe any one ſo laborious, ſo active, or who was more deſirous of gaining information.

" Olion, (ſaid he to me,) for that was the only name I went by, you keep your word with me. Go on; I ſee that you ſuit me; we are made for each other. Here is the amount of your firſt three months earning; I foreſee, and hope likewiſe, that every year it will go on increaſing." 'Ah! Sir, I, who all my life had never known the value of money, with what joy did I ſee myſelf poſſeſſor of 100 ducats that he had given me! with what religious care did I put by the largeſt part of them! with what eagerneſs did I continue my labour that had gained them! and with what impatience did I look for the end of the three other periods that was to add to my riches! One of the happieſt days of my life, was that in which I ſent the firſt hundred louis of my ſavings to Paris; and when I received the note which they had acquitted, I kiſſed it a hundred times; I waſhed it with my tears, and laying it upon my heart, felt it like a ſalutary balſam applied to a wound!

'Three ſucceſſive years I experienced the ſame pleaſures. It is ſtill greater to-day; because by the increaſe of my ſalary, and ſome gains which a little commerce has produced, double the amount of my ſavings. If this remittance has been a little longer delayed than uſual, I beg of you, Sir, to inform my creditors, that the delay was occaſioned by the death of the only truſty correſpondent I had in Paris; and that from henceforward you will have the goodneſs to remit it to them. Alas! I have perhaps fifteen years more to wait before I ſhall be totally free; but I am only thirty-five years old, and at fifty I ſhall have paid every one;—the wound of my heart will be healed;—

a multitude of voices will raise themselves to testify my good faith;—and this forehead may then ſhow itſelf in its own country without a bluſh. Ah! Sir, what a conſolation it is to me to think that the eſteem of my fellow citizens will return to adorn my old age, and crown my white hairs!" "Scarce had he finiſhed ſpeaking, (ſaid Watelet,) than, delighted in knowing ſuch perfect honeſty, I embraced him moſt cordially, and aſſured him I did not believe there exiſted an honeſter man. This teſtimony of my eſteem affected him much; and with tears in his eyes he aſſured me, he ſhould never forget my affectionate farewell; adding, at the ſame time, that I knew his heart, and that his conſcience told him the ſame things I had done."

To be concluded in our next.

A POLITICAL SQUIB.

Ingleſide, Jan. 7. 1793.

I A. B. having again met by myſelf, and taken the chair, Reſolved 1*ſt*, That as a free people can ſubmit to no laws, but ſuch as they have agreed to *viva voce*, or by the mouth of their repreſentatives, the laws of God, which are enacted by the *counſel* of his own will, are not binding upon free men.

Reſolved 2*dly*, That many men, many minds, and conſequently that a repreſentative can never be able to know the minds of all his conſtituents; of courſe no laws, made by a repreſentative aſſembly of any ſort, ought in any caſe to be binding upon a free people.

Reſolved 3*dly*, That as the knowledge of man is progreſſive, ſo that what appeared to him right and fit to day, may, with good reaſon, appear to him altogether incompatible with his intereſts at a future period; therefore no law, even if it had been ſanctioned by himſelf, can be obligatory upon him, if he ſhall not be convinced of

the propriety of it at the time it is meant to be carried into execution.

Resolved *4thly*, That a judge has no other rule for deciding with equity, but by adhering to the law which is in force at the time he makes his decision, respecting the case in question; it is, therefore, his duty to explain to the culprit, in all cases, before he proceeds to decision, every law in being at the time, which can affect him, and to ask whether or not he approves of such laws. If he disapproves of any law, it must therefore be set aside in his case, otherwise the judge will act in direct contravention of the natural rights of man.

Resolved *5thly*, That since all men, as they came from the hands of the Creator, are equal; and as one man has an appetite for food as keen, and a palate [illegible]ing it as strong as another, it is contrary to the disposition of providence, and an infringement of the natural rights of man, for any one to have food in plenty, and of delicate savour, while another does not poſsefs an equal quantity, and of as delicate reliſh; that therefore, wherever such inequality is found, the one person has as good a right to it as the other, and may of course seize upon it, or at least ſhare it with the other, whenever he feels an inclination so to do.

Resolved *6thly*, That the poſseſsion of fine women is a source of high enjoyment to man, and that it is a great infringement of his natural rights for any one to appropriate an object of this desireable sort to himself: therefore marriage, which is merely calculated for attaining this purpose, is a ſhameful aristocratic contrivance, that has been invented solely with a view to deprive a great part of mankind of their natural rights, and has been hitherto tolerated, merely because of the ignorance of the people with respect to their just rights. But now that

mankind have come to that luminous state of knowledge, which at present is so happily beginning to pervade Europe, it ought to be no longer tolerated any where.

Resolved *7thly*, That as hereditary property in land is another aristocratic device, calculated solely to secure to one class of men the means of enjoyment of which another is deprived, and can only tend to perpetuate the power of committing injustice in certain families, it ought to be entirely abolished; and to talk of restoring it again ought to be declared treason against the majesty of the people. Punishment, instant death. To be inflicted by any person who shall hear such a sentiment expressed.

Resolved *8thly*, That that detestable system which has been so long cherished among mankind under the name of *religion*, is a contrivance to carry aristocratic notions even beyond the grave, and to establish a perpetual inequality among mankind, that is beyond the po wer of man to overrule; that it is therefore the most daring invasion of the rights of man that ever was attempted; and ought to be guarded against with the utmost care. All orders of priesthood therefore should not only be instantly abolished; but it ought also to be declared that an attempt to restore it is a superlative kind of treason against the natural rights of man; and it should be accounted an action highly meritorious for any person to put another to death who ever had but hinted a word in its favour; and the public ought to reward with a civic crown, him who had done so meritorious an action, which he should be desired to wear on all public occasions, as an honourable mark of his untainted civism.

Resolved *9thly*, That in order to enable every man to execute the laws with promptitude and effect on all occasions, it ought to be decreed that every person should provide himself with a poignard, to be worn by him on

all occasions as a conspicuous part of his dress; which, like the arms of our forefathers in feudal times, should be accounted the peculiar distinguishing badge of a free man *.

* The humour of this paper is not so striking as that of the *first* part, [Ber, vol. xiii. p. 49.] And there is reason to believe it is not written by the same hand. It is, indeed, so close a copy of the resolves of the Jacobin club, and even of the National Convention in Paris, that it more resembles a serious than a humourous performance. But whether it be considered as serious or humourous, the conclusions here drawn as necessarily follow from the premises, as those of any proposition in Euclid. For if *the invisability of the* NATURAL *rights of man* be once admitted, it is impossible to deny, that, by the fairest reasoning, every thing above stated must follow. Many worthy persons who heartily approve of the *first* proposition, will no doubt be shocked at the conclusions here deduced from it. Just so it has happened, that many men who sincerely approved of the first revolution in France, are now as seriously shocked at the transactions which have resulted from it; though they were, in like manner, the natural consequence of the insubordination to legal authorities which led to it. The phrase, *liberty and equality*, was at first admitted by the well meaning part of the community, as a very innocent one; yet they soon perceived ideas were annexed to that phrase by the common people, which are altogether incompatible with the preservation of property, or the existence of civil society. The newspapers were then filled with abstract metaphysical explanations of the meaning which *ought to be* annexed to that pharse, and disclaiming the intention of ever conveying the idea by it that had been annexed to it: But as it is obvious, that the meaning of a word all the world over, is that which it conveys to the mind of those who hear it spoken; and as it was plain from their own explanations of it, both here and in France, that the bulk of the people understood it meant an equal division of property, every metaphysical argument, adduced to show that it meant no such thing, was nonsense, and could have no other tendency than to perplex. If then, such destructive notions may be excited by the use of a single word, originally made choice of with a design to mislead, how cautious ought we to be against admitting as unerring principles of conduct, speculative propositions, however plausible they appear at first sight, to those who have not been accustomed to trace the remote ends which artful men may at last intend to obtain by them. *Edit.*

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13. 1793.

OBSERVATIONS ON GRAMMAR.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

SOME of your readers thought themselves much obliged to you for your plan of a dictionary, and some grammatical disquisitions lately inserted in the Bee. The former article gave great satisfaction; the only cause of regret with regard to it was, that we could not promise ourselves the pleasure to see the same hand that drew the plan finish the work: we would gladly hope, however, that you will, from time to time, resume it as your convenience will permit.

The grammatical disquisitions, though not equally agreeable, appeared well founded. The proper classification of the words of any language is, perhaps, far from being complete. He who compiles a dictionary has occasion indeed to observe each individual word, as it passes before him in that *grand review*, to use a military phrase; but, on a field day, they are not at their usual employment; they are obliged to appear in their ranks, (except they have had the good fortune

to absent themselves unperceived) without regard to their kindred, their affections, or antipathies, and the several duties of social life. Many of their qualities, whether good or bad, escape the eye of the commander in chief, as well as that of all the inferior and subaltern officers. We say nothing of the foreigners, who speak a different language, and who, for want of the uniform, disfigure the ranks; only we cannot help observing, that though they no doubt swell the muster roll, they frequently prevent natives, equally fit for the service, from appearing in their proper places.

But to drop the metaphor; language is intended, and ought to be considered, as the means of communicating or exciting ideas. These purposes may be effected by sounds or by signs. Both these are originally arbitrary. They become fixed and permanent by the tacit mutual consent of those who use them. In different communities, beside those ideas common to the species, there are some peculiar to each: there are also relations necessary to be attended to, and announced. To convey an intimation of either kind, different methods have been invented, and prastised, with different degrees of ingenuity, in different languages. With regard to the classification of the sounds, or signs of sounds, representing those, to resume the metaphor, officers, accustomed to Grecian tactics, think of nothing but a decimal arrangement, while those fond of the Roman discipline, wish to rank every military force in manipuli, or turmæ, cohorts, and legions; and, if the British might claim the next place, we should hear of companies,

regiments, brigades, and batallions only. But, as the means employed in different languages vary, it would be absurd to force all the constituent parts of one, into the particular form that another had been found naturally to assume. The words of one language might be properly arranged under four classes; those of another under eight; those of a third under ten or more. Every one, acquainted with different languages, knows that there are certain essential constituent particulars in which they all agree; but that, at the same time, there are certain peculiarities respectively belonging to each, even in those things in which they agree.

Instead then of cutting and carving, twisting and bending, the parts of one language to fit them to the size, form, and structure of another, it were better surely to study, philosophically, the genius of each; and to arrange and unfold its parts in that form and order which they most naturally assume. One talks of *names, attributives*, and *connectives*; another of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions and interjections; a third will have these last with article at their head; and participle following the verb. Some wish the classes few, to make the matter simple and easy; others wish to have such a number, that each word may readily find a place. Each party have their followers; these again squabble about their definitions.

Suppose, then, that one were to study the genius of a language, the English for instance, and to collect a system of rules, plain, simple, and easy to

be understood; might not one, for his own private use, draw up a few titles thus, *article, name, substitute, quality, number, existence, adjunct, relation, conjunction, interjection?* These to be clearly defined, and their number to be increased or diminished as should be found necessary.

1*st*, There would be no necessity for any definition with respect to the articles *a* and *the*; but it would require some pains and ability to ascertain their use.

2*dly*, Nor would any definition be necessary to make even a child understand what is meant by the *name* of a thing. To the philosopher who would not be satisfied that the thing were understood, unless it were explained, we might say, that a name is a sound or sign, that serves to convey or excite in the mind of the hearer or reader, the idea of the being, animate, inanimate, or ideal, which it is intended to represent.

Many particulars with regard to NAMES come next to be explained. *Cases* being exploded, which, but for the learned languages, as they are called, had never been heard of in English, attention should be paid to the manner in which they are affected by various relations, and that peculiarity which you have been at so much pains to develope; that when two names stand together, the former is generally definitive of the latter, so as to mark its progenitor, possessor, state, use, *&c.* as the king's son, the king's palace, a tea table, a pen knife, and others almost without number. DEFINITIVES ought to form a class by themselves. They are of two kinds, the former

acting in a double capacity; at one time as names, at another, as definitives; the latter serving no other purpose than to mark definitively the word with which it is joined. The *articles* would be included in this clafs, and instead of article as a title, we fhould find *definitive* the title of the clafs, which fhould rank next after names, though the individuals that form this clafs, claim precedence in the ſtructure of a ſentence.

3*dly*, The *ſubſtitute* for a name, commonly called a PRONOUN, from the relation it bears to its principal, ought never to loſe ſight of it, and might very juſtly be called *the relative term*. Many words commonly ſuppoſed to belong to this clafs, would come to be ranged as definitives. In the following example moſt of them might do double duty; as, *I Simon Slow*.

4*thly*, The word intended to expreſs the *quality* of the object with which it is joined, though it has had the misfortune to be huddled into the ſame clafs with that of names, can ſcarce, one would think, be miſtaken even by the moſt inattentive. How this word came to be varied or accompanied with others, ſo as to mark the increaſe or diminution of the quality, would come next to be conſidered.

5*thly*, How *number* could have been confounded with *quality*, is one of thoſe myſteries of iniquity in the ſcience of grammar, which I ſhall not attempt to explain, unleſs it was merely from the form of its inflexion in the learned languages.

This clafs might be examined and explained, next to the *articles* or *definitives*. When we proceed with-

out it to names, we can only mark individuals; by the help of numbers we stretch away from definite, to numbers indefinite, or unlimited plurality.

6thly, The next clafs here denominated EXISTENCE, has hitherto defied the powers, and disdained the restraint of definition. Very little ingenuity would be requisite to expose the futility of the most approved, "*to be*, *to do*, or *to suffer*". But to unfold the simplicity, the copiousnefs, and variety of this most eſsential term, which always denotes existence, and often implies the state, action, or affection of its person: this term without which a complete sentence cannot exist, to unfold its *nature*, and ascertain its extent;—would require a patience, perseverance, and a degree of discernment, vastly superior to what we can ever expect from mere dabblers in this profound science. These can mark its relation to person and number; but what is properly meant by *tense* and *voice*, is still a mystery.

7thly, The clafs of ADJUNCTS, briefly marking *degrees*, *modes*, *times* &c. These are joined with quality, existences, and adjuncts. They are only abreviations introduced for the sake of dispatch, and may be resolved each into a word marking relation, and a name.

8thly, A word marking RELATION. This clafs of words has been happily illustrated by Mr Bauzée, in his *Grammaire Generale*, "Three has to six, the same relation, (says he,) that five has to ten, sixteen to thirty-two, twenty-five to fifty. Of these the exponent term is TWO, which remains the same, though the antecedent and subsequent numbers in each ex-

ample be different. Examples; The hand *of* God, The anger *of* the prince; The desires *of* the soul. And in the same manner; Contrary *to* peace; Useful *to* the nation; Agreeable *to* my father. And again; To think *with* precision; To speak *with* truth; To write *with* propriety."

9*thly*, and 10*thly*, The CONJUNCTION and INTERJECTION would occasion much less trouble, than many of the foregoing classes; though the former of these would merit a good deal of attention, as the connecting link of the chain of argument, and of narration; or as the repellent power that separates, and keeps asunder, things to be disjoined. Conjunctive and disjunctive words ought not to be overlooked, or superficially considered.

Such is a kind of outline of the *first* part of grammar. I pretend not to say it would be found complete; but something like this I would judge necessary to have prefixed to what is commonly called a dictionary, a work which I would wish to see finished with ability, on your plan. I should reckon it the *second* part of a complete grammar of the language. As a *third* and finishing part I would gladly see subjoined, a clear view of construction and arrangement,

Thus the first part should contain the classification of words, and their affections, or the variations to which they are subjected.

The second, an explanation of the primary and figurative meaning of each word, and the discrimination necessary to distinguish it from any other, that might be reckoned nearly synonymous to it.

The third ſhould treat of the ſtructure of our language, and its arrangement, as adapted to every different ſtile of compoſition.

To fix its vocal ſounds and articulations, accents, &c. the modern plan of a key, and numerical characters placed over each ſyllable, might be of conſiderable advantage towards producing uniformity in its uſe, provided there were any ſuch work, poſſeſſing an authority ſuperior to cuſtom. Such a work, however much it merits the attention of the public, is rather to be wiſhed than expected.

MICA.

ANECDOTE.

A RUSSIAN, after having paſſed the night in the tent of an Oſtiack, loſt next morning about a league from thence, a purſe containing m[illegible] han an hundred rubles. The ſon of the O[illegible] going ſome days afterwards to the chaſe, found the purſe, examined it, but did not bring it with him. On coming home he told his father what he had ſeen; his father ſent him immediately to the place, and deſired him to cover it with ſome branches of trees, in order to hide it from the view of others. More than three months afterwards, the Ruſſian returned from his journey, and coming to lodge with the ſame Oſtiack, told him of the loſs of his purſe. Set yourſelf at eaſe on that head, ſaid the Oſtiack; I will ſend my ſon to ſhow you the place where it is; you have only to go and take it. In effect, the Ruſſian found it in the ſame place where it had been dropped, preciſely in the ſtate he had left it.

A TABLE OF GEMS.

Continued from p. 214.

Class twelfth.

OPAL and CAT's EYE.

The PHEAROS of the Greeks

HARDNESS 10; SPECIFIC GRAVITY from 1,7 to 2,2.

Varieties.

The SANGENON of the Indians, and NONNIUS of the ancients, is of an olive colour, reflecting ruby coloured rays; the IRIS OPAL of a glassy white, reflecting greenish, yellow, purple, and bluish rays; MILKY OPAL, pale flame coloured rays; CAT's EYE, redish colour, almost transparent; AVANTURINE CAT's EYE, contains little plates of a metallic splendor; DARK GREEN, purple and green rays; OLIVE, greenish yellow rays; WHITE, blue rays; BLACK, white rays; BLUE, white rays; VIOLET, white rays; YELLOW, white rays; GIRASOL, weak bluish rays with an orange yellow; FISH's EYE differs from the cat's eye in its colour, which is bluish.

Analysis.

ORIENTAL OPAL, Sp Gr 2,09; Arg 4; Sil 47; Cal 2; Ir 9; Mg 38.
CAT's EYE from Eilbenstock, Sp Gr 1,7 to 2,2; Arg 16; Sil 84*.
OCCULUS MUNDI, Sp Gr 2,0.

Form.

The form of the opal is that of a pebble, like the agate, with which the authors in general have classed it, from a supposed resemblance, which I find no sort of proof of. On the contrary, Bergman's analysis points it out to be of a very different nature

* Bergman.

from the genus of flints, of which the agate is a species; magnesia constituting a large part of its composition, and not entering at all into that of the agate, if we are to judge from the analysis of the parent species or flint, there being none yet publiſhed of agate. The specific gravity of the opal is likewise extremely different from that of the agate. These reasons appeared to me sufficient for taking one of the most beautiful and valuable gems from the second order, where it had been placed, and putting it into the first, which appears its proper station, till better arguments can be urged for disgracing it. The olive coloured opal, the sangenon of India, and Nonnius of the ancients and modern Europeans, from the Roman senator Nonnius, poſseſsor of the famous opal of Rome, worth 20,000 sesterces, who preferred baniſhment to parting with it to Anthony; an opal answering exactly to Pliny's description of the Nonnius was discovered about thirty or thirty-five years ago in the ruins of Alexandria, and purchased for a trifle by the French consul Lironcourt, from his dragoman Roboly. The duke de Nivernois, when ambaſsador in London in 1763, was in poſseſsion of the very stone. The next in esteem and value is the Iris opal, of a glaſsy white colour, but when looked through appears of a flame colour, as the Nonnius does of a ruby. Wallerius thinks the Iris is meant by Pliny, instead of the former for the Nonnius. It reflects green, yellow, purple, and bluiſh rays, whilst the first reflects ruby coloured. The milky coloured opal throws out pale red rays. The bluiſh coloured opal is the most common and least valued of any. The girasol exhibits in its internal part a luminous point,

and reflects the rays of light in whatever position it may be turned, when it is cut into a globe or hemisphere.

Structure, Properties, &c.

Gems and chrystals are of a laminar or foliated texture, or composed of thin transparent plates, laid regularly one upon another, and adhering strongly; but when it so happens that these little plates or lamina, instead of lying in the regular manner described above, which constitutes the common laminar texture, are of a broken texture, like the opal, in clusters, differently inclined to one another, they then reflect various colours according to the angle you view them in. The opal is semitransparent, although it appears opaque by reflection. It is affected by fire like flints, and melts with borax with difficulty. The oriental are said to be very hard, but the occidental is only 10 in this table.

THE CAT's EYE.

This is a variety of feldt-spath, found in a pebble form, like the opal; and I have given it a place in the first order of gems, merely because it is esteemed and worn as such,—some of the specimens which I have seen being of an extraordinary price; such as one belonging to the late prince Potemkin, said to have been taken from the orbit of a Gentoo idol, of which it made one of the eyes, by the famous Nadir Shah, and disappeared, with many other gems, from his tent, when that conqueror was assassinated. The other eye has never been heard of as yet: probably it may have found its way back to India. The baron Turbe, ambassador at the court of St Petersburg

from his Sardinian majesty, has a most uncommon variety of great value, of a dark green or bottle colour, reflecting purple rays, concentrated in a round spot, like the pupil of the eye, and surrounded with a light green circle. The author of this table had an olive coloured cat's eye in his posseſsion, leſs than any of the two mentioned above, and much inferior in every respect, for which a jeweller paid him 600 rubles to set in a ring. The good cat's eye is in general of an olive colour, and throws out bright greeniſh yellow rays, like the real eye of that animal; of this kind was that of prince Potemkin, and the one disposed of by the author. The FISH'S EYE only differs from the cat's eye in being of a bluiſh colour.

Structure, Properties, &c.

The texture of the cat's eye is laminar, with the edges of the plates visible to the eye, a particular construction, which produces what the French call *des pierres chatoyantes*, or stones that change colour according to the position you view them in, like certain well known silks. Several varieties of feldtspath poſsesſs this property in an eminent degree, and produce a number of curious and beautiful stones described in the next order. It is rather surprising that some celebrated mineralogists claſs the cat's eye with the agate, under the name of the Pseudo opal.

Where found.

The sangenon or Nonnius opal, is found in the East Indies; the Iris, in Ceylon; the milky opal, at Eilbenstock and Freyberg; the bluiſh or

most common and least esteemed, in Hungary, Silesia, Saxony, *&c.*; the olive and bottle coloured cat's eye, in Ceylon; the inferior in different countries of Europe. Mr Born mentions what he calls an avanturine cat's eye, of a flesh colour and transparent, posſesſing the curious structure of the avanturine, *viz.* composed of little plates like scales, with a metallic splendour, which reflect the rays of light like the opal. This stone I suspect to be that which has led authors to claſs the avanturine with the opal, although it is in fact a fine opaque quartz, as will be mentioned in the second order. Ruſsia produces the opal at the rivulet, Katscha, near the city of Krasnajark, in the Altai mountains in Siberia. The cat's eye is found in mount Caucasus. Although the occulus mundi is not intended by the author of this table to be introduced into the first order of gems, though highly curious, and of course is not named, still there is no place so proper to mention it as the article of the opal, with which it has so intimate a connection, from its being generally found in beds over it; and from being regarded by some naturalists, as the same stone in a state of decomposition by the action of the air. It has the curious property of becoming transparent when kept in water a few hours, although naturally opaque, and of a whitiſh brown colour. This phenomenon proceeds from its absorbing water, in the proportion of three grains to thirty-five of stone, when fully saturated. When it is saturated with oil of vitriol, instead of water, it preserves its transparency for a length of time, by the

acids attracting the humidity of the atmosphere. Ruſsia poſseſses this stone likewise, in the Altai mountains where the opals are found.

How valued.

No method of estimating the opal or cat's eye, is given by authors that we know of. But those of uncommon beauty and size, are sold for very large sums.

The only large fine cat's eye we find taken notice of by writers or mineralogists, is one of an inch diameter, belonging to the great duke of Tuscany, late Leopold II, emperor of Germany. It is of the oriental kind. The eye of the Gentoo idol, taken by Nadir Shah, as said in the text, was offered to prince Potemkin for 5000 ducats, but purchased for 1000. The dark green cat's eye of baron Turbe is esteemed at as much. Fine specimens of the hydrophanes or occulus mundi, are worth from 50 to 100 rubles.

Claſs thirteenth.

TURQUOISE.

Varieties.

ORIENTAL are blue of different ſhades; but those found in lower Languedoc are of whitiſh grey, or yellowiſh colour, when first dug up, and turn blue on being slowly heated.

Analysis.

Both the oriental and occidental turquoise, are composed of ivory and blue calx of copper.

Form.

The form is generally that of animal teeth, although sometimes of other bones, and it is in fact what it appears, *viz.* petrified ivory, completely penetrated with the blue calx of copper; and the best sort are agatized, or converted into a stone of the silicious genus, without showing, on the application of acids, any marks of its original calcareous nature, as the author has found on trial. There is a species of the turquoise, dug up in lower Languedoc in France, in the form of animal teeth, and rarely other bones. It is, when fresh from the earth, of a whitish, a grey, or yellowish colour; but it acquires the blue colour of the turquoise on being slowly heated, and retains it ever afterwards.

Structure, Properties, &c.

Laminar like ivory. Opaque, and hard enough to take a high polish. It loses its colour in the fire, and even when overheated. The French turquoise is soluble in the nitrous acid, which points out a difference between it and the oriental, that no acid can act upon; so that probably the first is a petrefaction of the calcareous kind, whilst the second is of the silicious.

Where found.

They are found in Turky, from which country it takes its name, and in Persia. These two go by the name of oriental. The occidental, in France, as mentioned above. Russia can as yet boast of no fossil ivory impregnated with copper; but nothing is so probable that it will be found in time; as Siberia furnishes such abundance in a calcareous pe-

trefied state, at the same time that copper is so common in the state of both blue and green calx; so that I suppose it very possible the Languedoc calcareous turquoise, at least, may be a native of Siberia, which has given such abundant matter for the speculation of philosophers, from its enormous beds of fossil ivory.

Largest.

Prince Potemkin, a great lover of gems, had one or two very fine of this kind, more distinguished for colour and polished lustre than size; but his excellency baron de Turbe, another amateur, (the proprietor of the valuable dark green cat's eye mentioned above,) possesses a fine turquoise, about the dimensions of a shilling, of an oblong form,—a large size for an oriental gem of this species.

The reasons which induced me to place the turquoise here, although belonging to another order of mineral bodies, are given in the explanation published with the table, as also those for giving the same rank to the pearl, against which there are the same species of objection.

How valued.

The value of the oriental turquoise is very great, especially in Turky, and Persia. Those mentioned above cost from 500 to a 1000 rubles.

To be continued.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATE.

THE frith of Forth is a beautiful arm of the sea, which from Berwick runs backwards within land to Stirling, a distance of nearly eighty miles. This distance was rapidly measured by Edward II. of England, in the year 1313, who, after the battle of Banockburn, which was fought in the neighbourhood of Stirling, fled with precipitation towards England; but he was so closely pursued by the gallant Douglafs, that he was constrained to throw himself into the castle of Dunbar, within twenty miles of Berwick, from whence he stole off in a fifhing boat by night to Berwick, then in the hands of the Engliſh, which he reached in safety.

The frith of Forth is bounded on each side with a fertile country, thickly strewed with towns, and diversified with gentle swells, and grotesque mountains, rising up in various forms in the back ground, which offer a great variety of picturesque landscapes. In the frith are also many isles, which serve to give a beautiful and rich variety to the prospects, that is seldom to be met with. At its entrance, on the one hand, stands the *Baſs*, an isolated rock of great height, perforated throughout its whole extent; on the top of which once stood a fortrefs, formerly deemed impregnable: and on the other side lies the *May*, a low and fertile isle, on which is placed a light-house, to point out the opening into the frith in the night time; an object highly delightful to the

bewildered mariner in storms; for here he is sure of finding a safe asylum in the most tempestuous times. Farther up, a little below Leith, is Inch Keith, which, together with a ledge of rocks that stretch from the southern extremity to the ſhore, offers a screen from the eastern winds, and so effectually breaks the waves, as to form above it a capacious road-stead, where ſhips of any burden may ride in perfect safety. This is called Leith roads; a beautiful bason, which when seen from the high ground about Edinburgh, offers one of the richest prospects that a commercial nation can enjoy. In the year 1781, there were seen moored at once in this road above 600 ſhips, many of them veſsels of great burden. This great and uncommon concourse of veſsels was occasioned by the continuance of an easterly wind for many weeks, during which time three large convoys, one from the West Indies, which had come by the northern paſsage; one from the Baltic; and another to it from all the parts of Britain, were forced to seek for ſhelter here, till the wind became fair to permit them to pursue their respective courses. When these veſsels weighed, and hoisted sail, and were forced by a change of wind to veer about and moor again, it exhibited a magnificent view of moving scenery, which was seen so perfectly from above, turning in this capacious bason, surrounded with fertile fields, and near and distant hills, scattered with immense profusion, as exhibited a scene so rich and so sublime as seldom can occur in any part of the world; and which is still spoken of with rapture by thousands who then beheld it.

Thousands too who were then in that fleet, and never had, or ever will have, another opportunity of visiting Scotland, ſhould the print that accompanies this number ever fall in their way, will readily recognise the juſtneſs of the picture. For if they make allowance for the extension of the new town of Edinburgh, they will perceive that every object is delineated with the moſt ſcrupulous fidelity. The view is taken from the very point where the center of the fleet was moored.

The attentive reader who compares this view with the deſcription given of the ſituation of the ground about Edinburgh, (Bee vol. ii. p. 242) will alſo have an opportunity of obſerving the juſtneſs of the remarks there made. The ſcenery here delineated is viewed from the north; and the hills, *viz. firſt* Arthur's ſeat; *ſecond* Salisbury craigs; *third* the Calton hill, with the obſervatory, and optician's houſe upon it; and *fourth* the caſtle of Edinburgh; all ſlope gradually from the baſe, by an eaſy aſcent from the eaſtward, and terminate abruptly on the weſt. To give a more perfect idea of theſe hills, let the reader be informed, that Arthur's ſeat and Saliſbury craigs, are but one hill at their baſe, though it be divided at the top. It is ſurrounded by a vale, in moſt places ſwampy; on the ſouth ſide that valley ſinks at one place, ſo as to form a lake of conſiderable extent, called Duddingſton loch; on the north, directly at the bottom of Salisbury craig, ſtands the abbey of Holyrood-houſe, in one of the moſt fertile vales that can be found in Britain, called St Ann's yards. This is here

totally concealed from view by the tail of the Calton hill, which rises gradually up to the north of it, and terminates abruptly to the westward; first at its highest top near the observatory; and second by a lower, but more abrupt precipice, here hid from view, by the houses newly built on the ridge on which the new town stands, which here attains its greatest height.

From the abbey of Holyroodhouse, the ground rises gradually, a continued ascent, till having paſsed the Calton hill, the houses of the old town begin to be seen, above those on the lower hill to the north of it; the castle being seen perched on a rock that terminates abruptly to the westward. In the back ground is seen a distant view of the eastern extremity of the Pentland hills, terminating in a bluff point to the eastward, very different in its configuration from the hills of Edinburgh. The Pentland hills form an irregular ridge of great extent, which run westward many miles, till they terminate at last near the Clyde, in the neighbourhood of Lanark. It is behind this ridge of hills that the new proposed canal is meant, by one party of men, to be carried; and nature has happily discontinued the hill at this place, as if with a view to open up a wide field for industry and commerce. Another party wiſh to keep entirely to the northward of this, and another range of hills, through which another opening has been made by nature, equally practicable. It is not yet determined which of the two plans will be at present adopted; but there is little doubt but they both will be executed ere

long; the advantages arising from which will perhaps be touched at in some future number of this work.

Mr Gilpin, in his tour in Scotland, has stigmatised the hill of Arthur's seat, as being unpicturesque in every point of view; and though I am aware of the absurdity of disputing about any thing so perfectly indefinite as an object of taste, yet I cannot help remarking, that I have seen many hills which appeared to me infinitely less picturesque than that which it bears from this point of view. As the delineation is exact, the reader will judge of this for himself. Indeed the peculiarity of this little cluster of hills, rising up with such bold features in the midst of a fertile level country, forms of itself a beauty of no small effect in picturesque scenery. But whatever may be the opinion of men as to the beauty of the hill itself, when viewed from the vale below, there is no diversity of opinion respecting the delightfulness of the prospect when seen from its top all around; for there is here seen such a vast extent of rivers, and fertile fields, and towns, and ships, and varied hills, breaking the uniformity, and giving such a vast diversity of pleasing contours, as fills the mind with an impression of immense extent, and unbounded profusion of fertility and of wealth.

In the fore ground is seen a view of the new invented buoy by captain Joseph Brodie, described (Bee, vol. viii. p. 238,) carrying a flag staff always upright; though it floats with the same freedom as any other buoy. It consists of a cone, like other buoys, having a ballast of cast iron fixed at one side,

to which the buoy rope is fixed. The other parts will be easily intelligible to persons versant in matters of this sort, by inspection only, without any farther description.

ON POLITICAL KNOWLEDGE.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

THERE are not many things which can be so grateful to the mind of a patriot as the general diffusion of political knowledge. That such knowledge is valuable has never been questioned; but the time may be remembered, when it was thought to be of difficult attainment, and of course to be necefsarily confined to the few. To entitle a man to give lectures in political science, our forefathers imagined that great compafs of mind, much study, and some experience were requisite; and such of them as had not themselves enjoyed these advantages, seldom hazarded an opinion respecting the principles of government, unlefs it had been sanctioned by the authority of Aristotle or Plato, Locke or Montesquieu. To these once celebrated names, the writers of the present day profefs no reverence; for they well know that such feelings would cramp their native genius.

The consequence of this emancipation from authority, is apparent in the number of pamplets which daily ifsue from the prefs; and which, fraught with political wisdom, afford a complete evidence that their authors have employed their time to better purpose than in turning over the musty vo-

lumes of antiquated philosophers. Aristotle was the inventor of syllogism, which every polite scholar holds justly in contempt. Locke and Montesquieu do not indeed syllogise; but they reason according to the rules of logic, with which modern education very properly disdains to bring her pupils acquainted. The political writers who at present devote their time to the instruction of the public, have too much sense and too much spirit, to pace in the narrow trammels of mode and figure. As their opinions are original, they enforce them by original reasonings, which neither Aristotle nor Galen, were they to rise from the dead, could resolve into what they would call legitimate syllogisms. The effects of this novel and powerful species of reasoning are seen in the conversions which are daily made from one party to another; and which writers such as Locke and Montesquieu, arguing in the dry and scientific form of the schools, could never produce in the minds of a free and enlightened people.

But whilst I thus pay a willing tribute of respect to the judgement and ingenuity of those who are labouring to enlighten the public mind, let me not forget to congratulate that public itself upon the love of truth, and the openness to conviction which all ranks of men so conspicuously display. Our authors, great as they are, would write in vain, were not their readers endued with these amiable virtues. Did mankind now, as they were wont to do formerly, consider themselves as bound to go along with their party in every case, demonstration itself would make no impression on them, and we should not have beheld

so many beautiful changes of political principles, as some individuals have lately exhibited. The first of these changes which attracted my notice, appeared indeed to my inexperience so sudden and so violent, that I attributed them not to patriotism, or the love of truth, but to the restleſs spirit of faction. When I observed gentlemen who had long made loud pretences to the love of their country, and of the principles of the Britiſh constitution, as settled in 1688, leading clubs to congratulate that aſsembly which had in France aboliſhed nobility, and in a manner imprisoned their king, I confeſs that I was inclined to suspect the sincerity of their pretences, and to call them in the language of Johnson, "the hypocrites of patriotism." But having since observed the same men, present in aſsociations to support the government, as estabiliſhed by *king*, *lords*, and *commons*, candour obliges me to consider them as influenced by a determination to follow truth *whithersoever ſhe may lead*, and their conduct as the consistent result of that most respectable principle. Whilst the arguments for the excellence of the Britiſh constitution predominated in their minds, they embraced every opportunity of expreſsing their attachment to that constitution: when the reasonings in behalf of democracy appeared to preponderate, like honest men, they become democrates and republicans. Now that the number and abilities of our constitutional writers have driven Paine and his satellites off the field, they have reverted to their original principles. And ſhould some more powerful champion than has yet appeared on either side, step forward

in defence of the French republic, it would be immoral to suppose, that the same virtuous attachment to truth, which has influenced these reasoning men in all their former changes, would not induce them to change once more, and again to declare themselves for a democratical government.

To shew how regardless our forefathers were of the abstract truth, or *love* of truth, which so powerfully operates upon the conduct of their posterity, I shall conclude this letter with a few reflections of George Saville, marquis of Halifax, whom Mr Hume pronounces to have been a man of the finest genius, and most extensive capacity, of all employed in public offices during the reign of the second Charles.

"The best *party*, (says this statesman,) is but a kind of conspiracy against the rest of the nation. It puts every body else out of its protection; and like the Jews to the Gentiles, considers all who are not of it as the offscourings of the world.

"Men value themselves upon their principles, so as to neglect practice, abilities, industry, &c. They consider attachment to their party, like faith without works, as a dispensation from all other duties, which is the worst kind of *dispensing power*.

"Party turneth ill thoughts into talking instead of doing. Men get a habit of being unuseful to the public by turning in a circle of wrangling and railing, which they cannot get out of; and it may be remembered that a *speculative coxcomb* is not only useless, but mischievous, and a *practical coxcomb*, under discipline, may be made use of.

" Party maketh a man thrust his understanding into a corner, and confine it, till by degrees he destroy it.

" Men in parties find fault with those in the administration, not without reason, but forget that they would be exposed to the same objections, and perhaps greater, if it were their adversary's turn to have the fault finding part.

" Most men enter into a party raſhly, and retreat from it as ſhamefully. As they encourage one another at first, so they betray one another at last. And because every qualification is capable of being corrupted by the exceſs, they fall upon the extreme, to fix mutual reproaches upon one another.

" Party is little leſs than an inquisition, where men are under such discipline, in carrying on the common cause, as leaves no liberty of private opinion.

" No original party ever prevailed in a turn; it brought up *something else;* but the first projectors were thrown off.

" If there be two parties, a man ought to adhere to that which he disliketh least, though in the whole he doth not approve it. For whilst he doth not list himself in the one or the other party, he is looked upon as such a straggler, that he is fallen upon by both. Therefore a man under such a misfortune of singularity, is neither to provoke the world, nor disquiet himself by taking any particular station. It becometh him to live in the ſhade, and keep his mistakes from giving offence; but if they are his opinions, he cannot put them off as he doth his clothes.

Happy those who are convinced, so as to be of the *general* opinion!

"Ignorance maketh most men go into a party; and ſhame keepeth them from getting out of it.

"If there were any party entirely composed of honeſt men, it would certainly prevail; but both the honeſt men, and the knaves reſolve to turn one another off when the buſineſs is done. They defame all England; ſo that nobody can be employed who hath not been branded." E. O. I.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

COMMON connections, like air or water, blend together, after ſeparation, as uniformly as before; but ties of nature, or of friendſhip, like fleſh and blood, can never unite again, without leaving a *cicatrice* behind.

The ſoul renders the countenance the index of the mind; ſo that we read therein the thoughts which the tongue refuſes to reveal.

The real diſtinction between man and man lies in integrity; an honeſt ſervant is a character of more value than one of more exalted rank. "We ſhould conſider faithful ſervants as unhappy friends."

Riches often take peace from the mind, but rarely beſtow it.

POETRY.

VERSES ON PERUSING AN ACCOUNT OF THE ARCADIAN SOCIETY AT ROME.

For the Bee.

STRANGE to relate! and had such childish toys,
The pow'r Italia's critic sons to please!
Fit only for a band of lovesick boys,
Or frantic Quixote in his last disease!

Did not these triflers of Arcadia know,
That *truth* alone can genuine light dispense;
And only streams from nature's fount that flow,
Can please the manly taste of sober sense?

Our Shenstone, led by dreams like these astray,
His Phyllis woo'd, and justly woo'd in vain;
And Milton's self, for passion's plaintive lay,
Gave Lycidas, but Fancy's frigid strain.
Of all the sins which e'er Parnassus curst,
Such affectation, vile, is sure the worst.

London, Dec. 20. 1792. A. T.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

YOUR inserting the following lines, first printed in the Madras Journal, will oblige W. S.

SATURDAY NIGHT.

HAPPY the man, whom fate ne'er doom'd to roam
Beyond the precincts of his peaceful home;
Who knows no terrors of a leeward shore,
Who never heard the foaming billows roar;
Nor felt the fury of the whirlwind's blast,
Nor saw the lightning rend the giddy mast;
Or mountain surges crush the trembling deck,
And rocks, and quicksands, sink the mangl'd wreck;
Yet can he paint the various ills, the woes,
The frantic joys, a seaman only knows;
When exil'd long, to many a hostile place,
Returned—he meets a partner's fond embrace:
Say then, amidst the ills he's doom'd to bear,
Shall he not prove an hour devoid of care,
A kind oblivious draught,—a festive gleam
So oft I've prov'd, and now my humble theme.

The winds all hush'd, the circling week just past,
And Saturn's wish'd for even return'd at last;
The jovial crew, their various pleasures seek,
Pleasures that come, alas! but once a week.
"Now the loud laugh that speaks the vacant mind,"
And witticisms, from friend Joe purloin'd,
Go on—whilst skill'd in legendary lore,
Some tell old tales, by thousands told before,
Of witches, fairies, spirits, apparitions,
And servant maids who rose to high conditions;
Of water spouts just breaking by the bows,
And sharks, five fathoms long, and teeth ten rows;
Of flying Dutchmen, and a monstrous whale,
Swallow'd a long boat rigg'd with mast and sail;
And how a purser, a nefarious dog,
Came to be hang'd—for stopping poor men's grog;
Whilst all approve, and pray that soon or late,
The self same end may be *their* purser's fate;
Meanwhile the chorus rapid, loud, and long,
Concludes the burden of each sailor's song;
Songs in praise of Rufsel fam'd at sea,
And gallant Rodney—took the *Ville Paris*;
Or of Macbride, a fellow always pleasant,
Or madcap Wallace sometimes disobedient,
And then a set up springing light as air,
Or fore or aft, to dancing quick repair;
Hornpipes and jigs in motley measures meet,
All fresh from Wapping or Virginia street,
Where to the "wry neck'd fife" or broken tabor,
Our tars are wont to learn in dance to labour,
While the kind fair, to grace the evening, flock
From Deptford, Greenwich, or from Greenland dock.
Thus glide the evening gambols, jest, and song,
Thus glide the joy-wing'd hours along,
Whilst potent draughts of bumbo, grog, and flip,
Regale the thoughtless inmates of the ship.
But now the can, which erst pass'd swiftly round,
Emits a hollow, heart appalling sound;
"The grog is out!" a thirsty seaman cries,
"The grog is out," another quick replies;
"Not quite," says Ratling, whilst the can he shews,
"To *wives and sweethearts!* d——me here it goes."
"Sweethearts and wives!" rejoin the jovial crew,
"Our can is out,—sweet lovely girls adieu!"
Down to their hammocks, part reluctant creep,
And "swear a prayer or two"—and sink to sleep.

A LESSON FROM ADVERSITY. A TALE TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF MARMONTEL.

Continued from p. 221.

"BEING arrived at Paris, I diſtributed his payments. His creditors wanted to know where he was, what he was doing, and what were his reſources. Without explaining myſelf fully, I informed them the opinion I had of his honeſty and good faith, and ſent them away perfectly ſatisfied. One day as I was at dinner at my ſolicitor's, M. Nervin, one of the guests hearing me ſpeak of my journey to Holland, aſked me with an ill humoured manner, mixed with contempt, if, in my travels through that country, I had by accident met with one Olion Salvary? As it was eaſy to ſee from his look, and the motion of his eyebrow, that the queſtion was made with no good intention, I was upon my guard, and replied, that my expedition into Holland being merely for pleaſure, I had not time to inquire after every Frenchman I may have met with; but from my connections there, it would be very eaſy for me to make inquiries after the perſon he had named. 'No, (ſaid he,) it is not worth the trouble; he has given me too much plague already to make me intereſt myſelf about him. He will have died of miſery and ſhame, and he will have done well, but he would have done better if he had died before he married my daughter, and before he had ruined himſelf. Let who will truſt to the fine expectations that any young man gives! In eighteen months 50,000 crowns in debt, to conclude flight and diſgrace! Ah! Sir, (ſaid he to the ſolicitor) when you marry your daughter be ſure to take every precaution; for an inſolvable and diſhonourable ſon-in-law is a raſcally piece of furniture.' M. Nervin aſked

how one ſo wary and ſo prudent had not foreſeen this misfortune and remedied it. 'I did foreſee it, (replied d'Amene,) and remedied it as much as lay in my power; for the day after the death of my daughter, I made haſte, and, thanks to heaven, had the conſolation to recover her portion, and all her jewels. But that is all I could ſave from his wreck; and as for his other creditors, they had ſcarce any thing to ſeize on.' It was with difficulty I prevented myſelf from overwhelming this hard hearted father with confuſion; but when he left the room, ſoon after, perceiving the impreſſion which he had made on the minds of the father and daughter, I could not reſiſt, from the wiſh of avenging the cauſe of an honeſt man abſent; and without pointing out his aſylum, and ſaying where he was hid, for that was important to conceal, "You have juſt heard with what contempt this cruel father ſpeaks of his ſon-in-law. Well, all that he has told you is perfectly true; and it is not leſs ſo, that this unfortunate man is honeſty and innocence itſelf." This beginning appeared rather ſtrange to them, and fixed their attention. The father and daughter being quite ſilent, I began to relate to them what you have juſt heard. Nervin is one of thoſe uncommon beings that is ſcarcely conceivable;—he has the coolleſt head and the warmeſt heart; it is a volcano beneath a mountain of ſnow. His daughter is of a happy compoſition, partaking equally of the warmth of the father, and the cool ſenſe of his reaſon. She is handſome, you have ſeen her, but ſo little vain of it, that ſhe hears herſelf praiſed without embarraſſment, and nearly the ſame, as if you were ſpeaking of another. She ſays one may be proud of thoſe qualities, which have been acquired, and it requires ſenſe and modeſty to hide or conquer it; but all praiſe is due to dame Nature for having given eyes, noſe, or mouth, of ſuch a form or figure.

This trait will give you an idea of the character of Juſtine, more decided, and more ſtrongly marked, than that of Adrienne, but poſſeſſing the ſame charm and candour.

This eſtimable girl liſtened with equal attention as her father; and at every circumſtance which marked the uprightneſs of Salvary, his deep affliction, his courage in ſupporting his misfortunes, I ſaw them look at each other; and tremblingly alive, with that ſweet feeling which virtuous minds will always enjoy. But, inſenſibly, the father became thoughtful, and the daughter more affected. When I came to thoſe words which Olion had addreſſed to me, 'Ah, Sir! what a conſolation it is for me to think that the eſteem of my fellow citizens will return to adorn my old age, and crown my white hairs,' I ſaw Nervin raiſe up his head, his eyes brilliant with the tears that filled them: 'No! virtuous young man, (cried he, in the warmth of his feelings,) no; thou ſhalt not wait for a tardy old age, to be free and honoured as thou deſerveſt to be. Sir, (addreſſing himſelf to me,) you are in the right, there is not in the world a more honeſt man. The plain and ſimple duties of life, any one may fulfil; but to preſerve ſuch courage and probity, in the midſt of precipices, misfortunes and diſgrace, without loſing his way the breadth of a hair, this is what is uncommon; this is what I call a mind tempered to proof. I will anſwer for him that he will commit no more imprudencies; he will be good and virtuous; for he knows now too well where the contraries lead to; and notwithſtanding all his father-in-law has ſaid, he is the ſon I ſhould wiſh for:—but what do you ſay Juſtine?'—"Me! father, (replied Juſtine,) I own he would be the huſband I ſhould wiſh for." 'Thou ſhalt have him, (ſaid her father, having directly formed his reſolution.) 'Sir I beg you will write to him to come here immediately, that a rich heireſs waits for him; but do not ſay

more.' I wrote to him. He answered me by saying, that in his situation he was condemned to celibacy and solitude; that he could not think of associating a wife and children with him in disgrace; and that he should never think of returning to Paris whilst there remained a creature that he could not honestly look in the face. This answer was a fresh spur to the impatient desires of the solicitor. 'Ask from him, (said he to me,) a particular account of his debts; and inform him, that a person who is interested about him, is desirous and willing to accommodate them.' Salvary consented to send me a list of his creditors, but would not listen to any idea of accommodation; that any reduction of his debts would be an injustice; and that he was determined to acquit them to the utmost; and the only favour he required was patience and delay. 'Patience and delay! (cried out the solicitor,) I can give him neither; my daughter will have grown an old woman before he has paid his debts;—leave me his list, I know how to treat for an honest man; and I can assure you all the world shall be pleased.' Two days afterwards, he came to me, and said, 'It is all done;—here are the receipts in full;—send them to him, and tell him he will owe nothing if he marries my daughter; or if he does not choose me for a father-in-law, I shall be his only creditor; for what I have done, does not constrain him to any act he does not like.' I leave you to imagine what was the gratitude of Salvary, on seeing, as it were by a stroke of a pen, all the traces of his ruin and disgrace effaced in an instant; and with what eagerness he flew to return thanks to his benefactor. He was however detained in Holland longer than he wished, and the impetuous Nervin began to say, that he was a difficult man, and slow to move. At last he came to my house, scarce daring to persuade himself that all which had happened to him was not a dream. I immediately

conducted him to his generous benefactor; and there, between two sentiments, equally delightful, gratitude to the father, and every day more struck with the charms of the daughter, finding in her all that he had so much regretted in his dear Adrienne, he was, he said, uncertain which was for him the most precious, such a friend as Nervin, or such a wife as Justine. He had, however, a weight upon his mind, which he could not conceal; and Nervin having reproached him for having made them wait so long for his arrival, 'Excuse me, Sir, (said he,) I was impatient to throw myself at your feet; but independent of my accounts which I had to close, I had more than one combat before I could leave Holland. The worthy Odleman, my refuge, my first benefactor, had reckoned upon me as the supporter and comforter of his old age; he is a widower without children; and, without telling me, had adopted me as his son. When it was neceſsary to take my leave of him, and in relating to him my past misfortune, I informed by what sort of miracle of goodneſs my honour had been restored me: he complained bitterly of my diſsimulation, and aſked if I thought I had in the world a more sincere friend than Odelman? He preſsed me to consent that he ſhould pay for me what you have so generously expended; he renewed his request with tears; and I ſhould ſhortly not have had the force to refuse him; but having read the letter of M. Watelet, wherein he so truly painted the beautiful person of Justine, and her mind still more amiable, "Ah! (said this honest man,) I have no daughter to offer you, and if this portrait is true, her equal would be difficult to find:—I no longer wiſh to detain you. Go; be happy, never forget me, or cease to love me." During this recital, Nervin was wrapt in thought. All of a sudden breaking his silence, he cried out, 'No, no! I do not wiſh you ſhould be ungrateful, or that a Dutchman ſhould boast of more generosity than I have; here you have no profeſsion, and you

are not made to live in idleneſs. It would be exceedingly agreeable, as you may suppose, to have my children live near me, but let us reserve that for my old age; and whilst buſineſs will sufficiently occupy my time, to prevent its hanging heavy on my hands, write to the good Odelman, I give you to him for ten years; after that time you will return to me, surrounded, as I hope, with a little colony of children, and during that time we ſhall have both been working for them.'

"The Dutchman overwhelmed with joy, wrote word that his house, his arms, and his heart, were opened to receive the new married couple. He is now expecting them. They are just setting off, and Olion henceforwards will be in partnerſhip with a Dutchman. This is the example I promised you, (said Watelet,) of a courage which many misfortunate wretches are in want of, that of never falling in one's own proper esteem,—that of never despairing of our exertions, as long as we feel ourselves actuated by virtuous and good principles.

INTELLIGENCE RESPECTING ARTS.

Account of the Silesian silk plant. A new discovery.

NOTHING seems to be of more utility to man than an attention to the productions of nature, so as to mark the uses to which they can be applied in economy and arts. This study, though it be not the most faſhionable one of the present age, is still attended to by a few; and scarce a year elapses, in which some useful production is not brought forward to the knowledge of the public, which had been formerly disregarded. The varieties of the cotton plant, which now begin to be attended to more than formerly; the bread fruit tree, the lac insect,

and many others, not to mention many leſser articles of economy, lately recommended to the attention of European farmers, are examples of this kind.

Hitherto, however, it has been supposed, that all cotton bearing plants are confined to tropical regions; but there is reason to believe, that many plants, bearing fibrous envelopes of the seeds, as the cotton plant, which might be employed in arts, may be discovered, that will admit of being cultivated in temperate climates. Mr Charles Schnieber, director of the city of Liegnitz in Silesia, has lately cultivated a plant of this sort, which he announces to the public as a discovery of great importance. An abstract of his eſsay on that subject we ſhall here lay before the public.

The plant he recommends is called Asclepias *Syriaca*; which is a species of *apocinium*. This is a perennial herbaceous plant, which, though a native of Syria, he finds to admit of being cultivated without difficulty in Silesia. It sets out in the spring many ſhoots from the root, which resemble the young ſhoots of asparagus. It is of very quick growth, and rises to the height of seven or eight feet. It flowers in Silesia towards the end of June; these flowers grow in umbells, or clusters, of thirty or forty together, each of which adheres to the stem, by a very tender pedunculus. It continues in flower about a month; and he describes it as a superb plant, which on account of its beauty alone, would deserve a place in every ornamental garden; but he has omitted to mention the colour of its flowers.

The flowers expand succeſsively; they are gradually succeeded by the fruit pod, which is at first a roundish button, like an egg. As these increase in size, they become a longish pod, which is for ordinary about five or six inches in length. They ripen in October, when the pod opens

like that of the cotton plant. In the inside is a scaly envelope, which is about one-fourth part shorter than the pod. Upon, and around this membranous envelope, there are placed many flat seeds, pear shaped, if their contour be regarded, of a reddish brown colour. To every seed is attached a tuft of a fibrous substance, of a soft silky appearance, about an inch, or an inch and a half in length, having a brilliant gloss, to which, he says, nothing in nature can be compared. When ripe the pods open of themselves, and throw out the seeds with a strong elastic force; so that it is necessary to take care to have them gathered before they be fully ripe, otherwise great loss would be sustained.

This kind of silk, as he calls it, though it certainly ought with more propriety to be called cotton, he says may be employed for a variety of purposes in arts. It possesses such a degree of elasticity, as to admit of being employed instead of down, for beds, and cushions for sophas, and other furniture. It may be also spun, and makes excellent stockings, caps, and other stuffs. "If, (says M. Schnieber) it be mixed in equal parts with silk, the stuff made of it, exceeds, in firmness and softness, any thing else in nature." He does not, however, explain himself sufficiently on this head to be fully intelligible. He must, I presume, mean that the chain or warp be of silk, and the woof of asclepias wool; for it is evident it can only be spun like cotton, and therefore can only be mixed with silk in different threads.

In the present state of the manufactures of Britain, it is obvious that a plant of this nature, could it be reared here with profit, would be a prodigious acquisition to us; and therefore it deserves to be attended to as an object of great importance. Mr Schnieber says he has cultivated it for several years, and finds it can be reared in Silesia

with great profit. The following are the particulars he has mentioned.

Culture of the Asclepias *Syriaca, or silk plant.*

"The culture of this plant, (he says) is very easy; and its produce augments from year to year for some time. [By this I presume we may understand, that it can be reared from seeds.] Is not liable to misgive; and as it has a perennial root, that the plant increases in strength as the the roots augment in size for some time. It ought to be tried at first on a small scale, and delights in a sandy loam. The ground ought to be well cultivated. It will thrive, he says, in a soil that is by no means rich; but there can be no doubt but it will be more luxuriant in a rich, than in a poor soil."

From his experience, he finds that each plant, at a medium, will yield about twenty pods; and thirty pods will yield, on an average, a *loth* of silk.

Not, however, being acquainted with the weights or measures of Silesia, I cannot here follow the details of this calculation, so as to make them intelligible to the reader. I can only say, that Mr Schnieber computes a crop of this kind will be six or eight times more valuable to the owner, than that of a crop of flax, or other crops usually cultivated in that country. Though something should be allowed for the exaggeration that may be expected on every new enterprise; yet the encouragement is such as to entitle this plant to the attention of the British improver; and I shall not fail to endeavour to procure some of the seeds, with such further elucidations concerning it as can be obtained, and communicate them to the public in some future number of this Work.

Mr Schnieber also indicates the uses to which the other parts of the plant may be applied. But of these I have as yet obtained no information; neither are the particulars

specified of the means of separating the seeds, or the expence of gathering the pods, or other parts of the process, all of which will come to fall afterwards under consideration.

Flax plant of New South Wales.

Among the many drawings of the productions of New South Wales, and elucidations concerning them that I have of late received, is that of the flax plant, so much praised on some former occasions, which does not appear to promise to be of so much utility as was at first expected. It seems to be of the nature of the aloe; whose leaves, when partially dissolved in water, like flax or hemp, afford a fibrous substance which may be spun; but from the specimens I have seen of the cloth, it is harder than that from flax or hemp; is equally liable to rot in wet; and, from the habit of the plant, I presume that it would yield a smaller weight of fibre from an acre, and be with greater difficulty cultivated, than either our flax or hemp are.

Indian sea grass.

There is, however, in the East Indies, a plant which has been long known in Europe; and might certainly be employed with much benefit on occasions. It is that transparent fibrous substance that is sometimes brought home as an object of curiosity, under the name of sea grass. It resembles hair, but is of much greater length, being often five or six feet long, and of an inconceivable degree of strength, so as scarcely to admit of being broken by the full force of a man, when drawn out fairly without being knotted. It is also incapable of being rotted in water. The natives in the East Indies, I am told, employ it with great success in making fishing lines; which are much smaller and stronger, and infinitely more durable than any thing of the same kind in Europe. It is in general admitted, that this is a submarine production, which in

some parts of India may be got in great quantities, and at a moderate expence. Farther elucidations concerning the nature of this substance, the uses made of it in India, and the mode of manufacturing it in the East, are earnestly requested from those who may have an opportunity of learning them in India.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The favour of *E. B.* has been too long delayed. Nothing but an impossibility to obtain the objects to which he alludes, prevented their appearing long ago. To the same cause must be ascribed many other omissions.

The same apology is necessary to *Cosmopolitan*, to whom acknowledgements, from reasons that cannot be here explained, have been too long deferred. The drawing, &c. he is so good as mention will be very acceptable.

The anonymous communication from Glasgow, containing private directions, is received, and shall be attended to.

It is requested correspondents will be so kind as adopt some signature, as it renders acknowledgements more easy and certain.

The description, and drawing of the American cassowary, by *P. H. N.* is thankfully received.

The obliging hints on machinery by *N. L.* are received, and shall not be overlooked; though, for obvious reasons, these articles must be sparingly introduced.

The extracts by *A Subscriber* are interesting, and shall have a place when opportunity offers.

The valuable communication from *Hydrabad*, containing a faithful picture of the court of Nizam, has been received with that thankfulness its importance merits; and will at an early period find a place in the Bee.

Many thanks are due for the communication respecting the ingenious and useful improvement on the machinery of cotton-mills, which shall be inserted at the time specified by the correspondent.

The verses by *I. L.* having by accident been mislaid, have thus long escaped notice, for which the Editor requests pardon of the ingenious correspondent. As some small atonment they shall appear in a very early number.

Though the Editor is always happy to cherish the first efforts of genius; yet he is afraid that the communication by *A. B. C.* would be deemed too juvenile for most of his readers. He will, however, advise with some others on this head, and be directed by their judgement.

The communication by *Q. D. E.* contains much good mixed with some dross. Why does not the writer purify it himself? When this task falls to another hand, it is always improperly done.

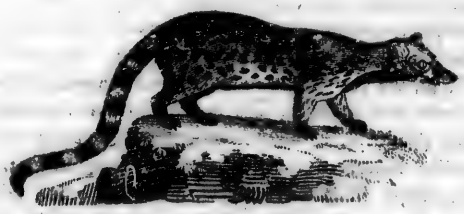
THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20. 1793.



THE GENET

Is one of the rapacious animals that may be domesticated, and converted to use by man. It belongs to the weasel tribe; and, like most of that clafs, emits a strong odour, which from being deemed agreeable to most persons, has obtained the name of a perfume. It is a native of Turkey, and the eastern parts of the Levant; from whence in all probability it had been introduced into Spain, where it thrives perfectly well, at a very early period, by the Tyrians, who frequented its coasts for the purposes of trade.

In size the genet is larger than the martin; its body measures in length about twenty inches; its head is long and slender, with a ſharp muzzle; its ears are a little pointed; its hair ſoft, ſmooth, and ſhining, of a tawny red colour, ſpotted with black. Along the ridge of the back there is a kind of mane of long hair, which forms a black line from head to tail; the ſpots on the ſides are round and diſtinct; thoſe on the back almoſt cloſe. Its tail is long, and marked with ſeven or eight rings of black. Its perfume iſſues from an orifice beneath its tail; it ſmells faintly of muſk.

This is a beautiful, cleanly, and induſtrious animal, and very active in purſuing its prey. It is kept, we are told, in the houſes of Conſtantinople as cats are with us, and is equally tame. Being more ſlender in its body than a cat, it can creep into ſmaller holes, ſo that it is extremely uſeful to the inhabitants in deſtroying rats, mice, and other vermin. In its diſpoſitions it is mild and gentle, its colours beautifully variegated, and its fur valuable. Upon the whole, it ſeems to be one of thoſe animals, that, with proper care and attention, might become a uſeful addition to our ſtock of domeſtic quadrupeds.

FRAGMENTS, &c. BY ARCTICUS.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

WHO was it that ſaid, the next thing to being witty yourſelf, is to be the cauſe of wit in others? Now, by a parity of reaſoning, one may ſay, that the next

thing to writing witty things yourself, is to preserve and promulgate those of others, which might otherwise be lost.

Actuated by this laudable motive, I here give you the translation of some fragments from an old continental paper, just fallen into my hands, by an accident, which I ſhould be ſorry to ſee entirely lost. They contain delicate general ſatire, and humorous moral researches.

Fragment First.

We carry every where about with us a little urchin, who ſerves, and domineers over us, at the ſame time. We ſuppoſe him of great fidelity and attachment, becauſe he never quits us through life; but the truth is, that he eternally cajoles us, and that we are his dupes every moment.

As, for example, we hide and cover him up with the greateſt care, forbiding him to ſhow even the tip of his noſe to any living creature; yet he is ſo diſobedient and impudent, as to dare ſhow himſelf, even quite naked, before ſtrangers; and that he does with ſo much addreſs, and has ſo much the power of faſcinating and blinding us, that we do not even perceive it.

But woe be to the man, to whom he plays this trick! for every one of our acquaintances has alſo his little urchin, and all ſuch mortal enemies, that they ferret one another out in a ſurpriſing manner, and are always on the watch; ſo that the inſtant one of them only ſtirs, the others are all in alarm,

and join like a pack of little hounds, to worry the imprudent brat. This little rogue is called

Self love.

Who is that ignoble looking brat, aſhamed to ſhow its ugly face, but whose hooked fingers, already seize by ſtealth, every thing which its voracious appetite craves? The little monster is called.

Abuſe.

But have only a little patience till he grows up, his face will then become leſs ſhocking; he will acquire a modeſt aſſurance, and will no longer conceal what he ſteals privately at present; his name will then be changed to

Uſage.

Give him ſtill a few more peaceable years, till he has acquired his full growth; he will then put on a haughty impoſing look, under his third and laſt name,

Right.

FRAGMENT SECOND.

Chance, ſon of Neceſſity, is a ſilly, fooliſh, and blind old fellow; wandering continually about the world, led by two women of very different characters, the one is named *Prudence*, the other *Folly*. On theſe two wenches he begets all events, quits them on his journey, and leaves *Futurity* to ſtand midwife to his progeny. In general, though not always, thoſe born of *Prudence* are happy, and thoſe of *Folly* miſerable; whilſt it is ſaid, that the laſt miſtreſs is much more prolific than the firſt, and that the old dotard loves her moſt

because he perceives that *Prudence* wants to govern him, whilst he thinks himself lord and master of *Folly*.

FRAGMENT THIRD.

The result of a chemical analysis of the human brain.

On distilling the brain of a Beau, much aeriform fluid came over; of an old Burgomaster, much insipid phlegm; of a Poet, a little acid spirit, with a portion of caustic alkali; whilst the brain of a second son of Parnaſsus, left to itself, without any species of preparation, gave a feeble phosphoric light, but without heat.

After distillation of the brain of an old miser, nothing was found but a hard refractory matter at the bottom of the retort.

Between the brains of a Britiſh senator, and a new French legislator, no kind of affinity was found, in spite of every species of intermediary substance employed to unite them; the Frenchman's brain eternally frothing up, leaving the solid Britiſh substance always at bottom.

Much inflammable gas was obtained from the the brain of a duellist, just run through the body in a quarrel about the figure of his mistreſs's nose, which his antagonist unluckily did not find exactly of the Grecian model.

Some brains of women, distilled *on hot sand*, gave a quantity of *incoercible* vapours, which were soon diſsipated on being treated in naked fire.

Upon the whole, *human brains* give but little *spiritus rector*,—a fugitive principle, proper to vege-

tables, but which seems to escape in their aſsimilation to animal substances.

ORIGINAL ANECDOTE OF A RUSSIAN PARSON.

I SHALL now give you an anecdote of the comic kind, where Peter the Great appears once more in what I have called his patriarchal character, correcting his offending children, with his far dreaded, and much respected dubeen, or cudgel. I must however premise, as a pope or parson cuts rather a ridiculous figure in this anecdote, that the Ruſsian clergy were far from being then, what they now are, a sober learned claſs of men. For much later than Peter's time, it was no uncommon thing to see one of the inferior orders reeling drunk along the streets, as they were, and even are, taken from the lowest claſs of people; a regiment having been formed about two years ago of pope's children for the Swediſh war, and disciplined for the artillery, by general Melisineu, at the Imperial Cadet Corps of artillery and engineers.

By this explanation I hope I ſhall be exempted from ſuspicion of the least insult on the clergy, without whose diligent and indefatigable application to their duty, at this dangerous criſis, civil society will be in a manner diſsolved, and Europe become a vast forest of wild beasts in human ſhape;—judging at least from the example before our eyes, of a people from whom pretended philosophers had eradicated every sense of religion and moral sentiment, by which the people have been alone governed from

Adam to this enlightened age, where they are set up as the governors and sovereigns of nations.

Anecdote.

SOME of the young nobility, who served about the person of Peter the Great as a sort of military chamberlains, under the title of *Benſhieks* (now given only to common soldiers, or rather recruits serving personally their officers,) had been playing some pranks on a midnight ramble, which came to Peter's ears in form of complaint, and at which he was much enraged against the perpetrators, though unable for some time to discover their names.

His chaplain was suspected by the young offenders to have removed this obstacle to their puniſhment, which followed very quickly the discovery, in a ſhower of blows from the dubeen. They were therefore resolved to revenge themselves on the officious parson, whose decided taste for good brandy, (then by no means uncommon in his cloth,) soon furniſhed them an opportunity of doing. Whilst one party of them was carousing with the devoted priest, and treating him with large cups of his favourite liquor, below stairs, another was piling up all the furniture of his apartment, *immediately over Peter's bedchamber*, on a round table in the middle of the room, on which they placed his looking glaſs, and to crown the pyramid a large bowl of punch. To this new species of tower of Babel, they fastened a string, let through a hole into the adjoining apartment, where one of the actors was stationed, ready to pull it on a preconcerted signal.

The parson, full of brandy and glee, was conducted with some difficulty up to his apartment by his bountiful hosts, who had rather overdone the business, so that on blowing out the light, just as he reached his door, their plot was almost rendered unnecessary by the violence with which he measured his length on the floor. This was the signal for pulling the string, and down came the whole table edifice, with such a noise, as made the emperor start from his couch, and run up stairs with his dubeen, to correct the young dogs, who were of course suspected of the fault. But what was his astonishment when he found them all lying apparently asleep in their beds, and the parson dead drunk on the floor of his room, swimming in punch, with all his furniture scattered about the room, even to the looking glass, which was shattered to pieces. The application of his dubeen brought him in some degree to his senses; but not so far as to account to Peter for the general wreck and the sea of punch. Indeed the poor man was nearly as much astonished as the emperor; and long took it for a trick of his old antagonist Satan, for the many pulpit phillippics he had uttered against that arch rebel. ARCTICUS.

A DETACHED REMARK.

THE variable weather of the human mind, the flying vapours of fancy, which from time to time cloud reason, without totally eclipsing it, requires much force of thought to regulate sound conduct.

A TABLE OF GEMS.

Continued from p. 240.

Class fourteenth.

THE PEARL, OR PEACOCK STONE.

This gem is formed from the cartilaginous ligament of the *mytilus margaritiferus*, or great pearl muscle, which has the appearance and colour of a peacock feather in miniature.

Analysis.

This being in strict propriety an animal production, has never, that I know of, been particularly analised.

Varieties.

The colour of the finest oriental pearl is a brilliant white, with a metalline splendour, inclining a very little to the blue; but some of the Ormuz pearls, have what the Indians call the black water, which heightens their value in the eastern market.

Form.

This gem, in such high estimation and value in all ages, especially with the Romans, who preferred it even to diamonds, and the other precious stones, probably from their being ignorant of the art of cutting the harder gems, is an animal production, found in certain shells, of the oyster and muscle kind, particularly in the mytilus margaritiferus. The finest oriental pearl is round, of a brilliant white colour, with a metallic splendour, and a slight

cast of blue; although they are often found of other ſhapes and colours; but the ground is ever whitiſh, more or leſs dirty, and tending to a cream colour, a yellow, a grey, a blue, and even in ſome ſpecimens, to a pinchbeck colour, with the ſplendour of that metal. Their eſtimation and value diminiſhes in proportion as they deviate from the ſtandard form and colour given above; although pearls of an uncommonly large ſize, are always valuable, though they ſhould deviate from both, on account of their rarity.

Structure, Properties, &c.

The ſtructure of the pearl much reſembles the ſtony concretions or calculi found in other ſea and land animals; that is to ſay, it is made up of coats or thin plates, laid one over another, from the centre outwards, and is of a calcareous nature, like the ſhell which produces it, in certain circumſtances. It has been regarded by naturaliſts as produced by diſeaſe, like other animal concretions; and on this idea, the celebrated Linnæus attempted to produce them artificially, by wounding the ſhell with a round ſharp pointed inſtrument, in hopes that the animal would form the precious calculus to ſhut up the hole; and it is ſaid he ſucceeded in a ſufficient degree to prove the juſtice of his hypotheſis, if not to enrich the philoſopher; as probably the ſize and maturation of pearls require a more genial heat to bring them to perfection, than the northern climate of Sweden can offer.

Where found.

The moſt valuable pearls come from the eaſt, as thoſe of Ceylon, Japan, China, *&c.* But the famous

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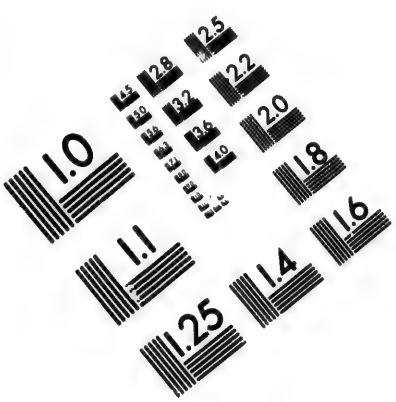

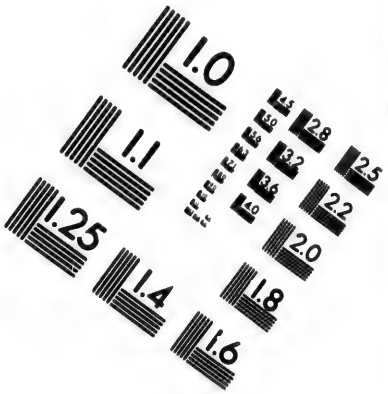

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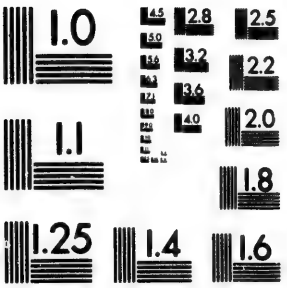

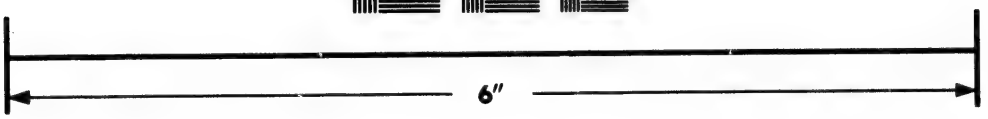

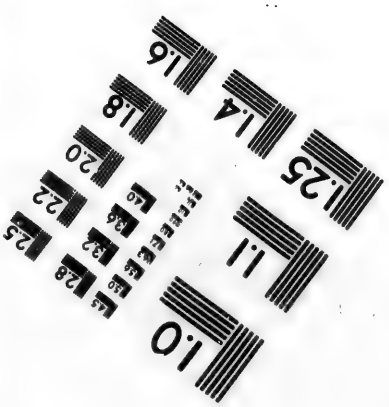

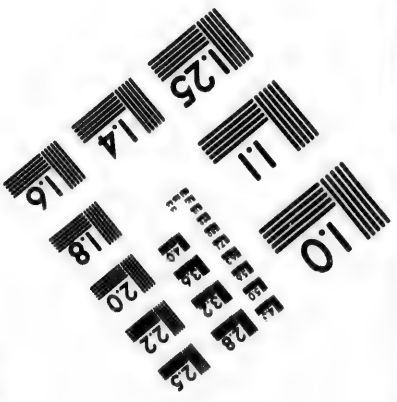

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fishery of Baharein, in the Persian gulph, which furnished to the ancients and moderns the celebrated pearls known by the apellation of Ormuz, from the name of the Indian mart where they were sold. The finest and largest are carried to the great Indian market, Surate, in the bay of Jougerate;—the inferior to Turky, Persia, *&c.* as the use of them is still greater in the east than in the west, where even religion assists their sale in India.

The pearl is found in many rivers of Great Britain, particularly the *Conway* in Wales; the *Irt* in Cumberland; the Ythan in Scotland, and many other smaller streams; as also the county of *Tyronne* in Ireland. The best are produced in the MYA *margaritifera*, and the MYTILUS *cygneus* and *anatinus*; two kinds of bivalve fishes of the muscle clafs; many small pearls are also found in MYLITISUS *edulis*, or common edible muscle, and also sometimes in the common oyster; but these are of such small value as to be disregarded.

Largest.

The famous ear rings of Cleopatra cost L. 161,000; and Julius Cæsar presented a pearl to Servilia, the mother of Brutus, for which he paid L. 48,000. —Of modern pearls, the largest upon record is that belonging to the king of Spain, in size and form resembling a small pear. Russia is not entirely without even this gem, as the author has some bad coloured pearls in his collection from the Kuril islands, which acknowledge the sceptre of that vast empire; and it is said, that an inferior variety are found in some of the rivers or streams of Rus-

sian Finland; which is probable enough, if they obtain in Sweden, although an object of little attention on the score of profit. A remark may not be improper here, on the decided taste of the Ruſsians for this gem, which they prefer to all others, (with the exception of a few of the nobility;) and it is surprising to see the quantity with which a Ruſsian merchant's wife is ornamented on the greater holidays, whilst the huſband appears by her side, in his beard, and the simple national garb; even her head dreſs is garniſhed with a species of lace, made of small pearls, which has no bad effect; however, it must be acknowledged, that they are in general of the inferior kind, selected by the Arabs for the European, Turkiſh, and Persian markets.

The pearls of Britain were celebrated by the Romans; and *Suetonius* reports, that Cæsar was induced to undertake his Britiſh expedition for the sake of our pearls; and that they were so large that it was neceſsary to take the hand to try the weight of a single one. Mr Pennant, with much probability, supposes, that Cæsar only heard this by report; and that the chrystalline balls, in old treatises called *mineral pearls*, were mistaken for them. It is, however, aſserted, both by *Pliny* and *Tacitus*, that Cæsar brought home a buckler made with *Britiſh pearls*, which he dedicated to, and hung up in the temple of *Venus Genetrix*.

It is said, that Sir *Richard Wynne* of *Guydir*, chamberlain to Catharine, queen of Charles II. presented her majesty with a pearl, taken in the river Conway, which is, to this day, honoured with a place in the regal crown.

In the present century, a pearl was taken in the river *Ythan* in Aberdeenſhire, and sold to a travelling dealer in Aberdeen for a trifle, which he carried to London, where, ignorant of its value, but observing that it was of great size and beauty, he offered it to a Jew, aſking, what he thought a very high price, in his own dialect, *forty pund*, that is L. 3 : 6 : 8. The Jew said, that was too high a price; but that he would give him 35 guineas, and no more; and anxious to secure the purchase, told down the money on the table. The astoniſhed Aberdonian looked at the sum with surprise; but did not discover his secret; and took up the money with great satisfaction, without counting it. The writer has in his poſseſsion two pearls found in that river of considerable size; but not remarkable for their lustre or purity.

In the last century, several pearls of great value were found in the rivers of the counties of Tyronne and Donnegal in Ireland. One that weighed thirty-six carats was valued at L. 40, but being foul lost much of its value. Other single pearls were sold for L. 4, 10s. and one for L. 10. This last was sold a second time to lady *Glenlealy*, who put it into a necklace, and refused L. 80 for it from the ducheſs of *Ormond*.

Value.

No mode of estimating the value of the pearl is given by authors; but it is always very great, when of a fine colour, form, and size. The Indians and Arabs talk of what they call the black water, in the splendour of pearls, which enhances their price in those countries.

End of the FIRST ORDER *of gems.*

Moral Reflections suggested by the Death of Louis xvi. of France.

Oh! what is pomp, and sublunary power!
And what is man, that boasts himself so high?
The sport of fate, the tenant of an hour,
Dust, animated dust, that breathes to die. Holt.

Among all the phenomena that have occurred within the period of *certain* history, none have tended more strongly to mark the unfortunate state of kings, than those events which have lately occurred respecting Louis xvi. of France. I do not here allude to his death; for in regard to that particular nothing extraordinary has occurred; nor ought it to excite the smallest degree of wonder:—it was quite in the train of usual events; for there is scarcely an instance on record, in which a faction, in any kingdom, acquired such power as to subvert the government, and dethrone the king, that they did not make haste to put the unfortunate monarch to death; from a natural dread, that, if he should be allowed to live, he might, at some future period, become a center of union, to connect his friends and partizans into a compact body, having views hostile to the predominating party, and that were to be dreaded in proportion to the virtues and abilities of the prince. There was, therefore, little room to doubt of the fate of Louis from the time of his dethronement; and the late events respecting him have been only a necessary consequence of the prelude that had already been acted.

But the circumstance that strikes my mind as being extremely singular, and as tending to point out, in most striking colours, the unfortunate situation of royalty, is the following. Louis had been king of France for upwards of eighteen years. He was not secluded from the sight of his subjects, like those eastern monarchs who shut themselves up in the interior parts of their palace for years together, without being seen by their subjects. The king of France was of easy access: he conversed freely with foreign ambassadors, ministers of state, and all who were presented at the court: he went abroad and mixed among his subjects: he assisted at the deliberations of his privy councils and parliaments, and did other acts that were open to the inspection of all.—Yet, in spite of all this, had Louis died before the time that he was called to answer at the bar of the National Convention, the accusations that were brought against him, he would have been universally accounted a weak and insignificant monarch;—a prince of no talents;—a being despicable almost in every respect;—a perfect sot indeed;—a creature who knew nothing, and valued nothing beyond the mere sensual gratification of indulging in the pleasures of the table to excess. He would have been therefore despised, and soon forgotten, as a monarch who was unfortunate indeed, but who deserved to be so; because these misfortunes, it would have been believed, had been, in a great measure, the result of his own stupidity and brutality. To all who shall read this paper in the present day, I appeal for the justness of the charac-

ter as here drawn, according to the general apprehension of the people in Europe, before the period here particularised.

But, by a singular fatality, as it ſhould ſeem, overpowering the judgement of the ruling powers in France, it came into their minds to bring the unfortunate monarch before them, to answer in perſon, publicly at the bar of their aſsemby, to the accuſations they had raked together, for the purpose of overwhelming him with the opprobrium of guilt, by the unguarded expreſsions they hoped might drop from his own mouth on that trying occasion. But how grievously were they diſappointed! and with what wonder did the aſtoniſhed world behold the man whom they had contemned and deſpiſed, riſe, by the ſole energy of his own mind, to an exaltation far exceeding any thing they could ever have expected from any one of the human race! Taken as he was, by ſurprise, and led before the tribunal, without ſo much as even being told whither he was going, or what was the purpose intended; without the benefit of counſel to prepare him how to act; without having had an opportunity of collecting his mind, and arranging his ideas on the ſubject, he was at once ſet before the aſsembly, and commanded to anſwer queries which they had been preparing for many months before, with a view to inſnare him. Is it poſsible to conceive an idea of a man being placed in a more trying ſituation! Yet Louis, with a dignity, a meekneſs, an affability; with a firmneſs, untinctured with petulance, or peeviſhneſs, anſwered, without heſitation or embarraſsment, every

interrogatory that was put to him; and scarcely omitted a single thing he ought to have said; or uttered a single word he would have retracted, had he had every convenience he could have wiſhed, to prepare him for such an examination. Never was there an instance in this world of a man raising himself by the single exertions of his own faculties, in one moment, from the lowest abyſs of abject contempt, to the highest exaltation of honour, in the estimation of mankind, but this one of Louis alone. This, and the subsequent acts, till the time of his death, all of which reflect the highest honour upon him, are the only actions during the whole life of that prince which can be called *his own*. In all the transactions of his reign, he spoke and acted by the advice, and under the influence of others, as other princes are also obliged to speak and to act. How unfortunate then is the state of those, who, even when they poſseſs talents and dispositions that ought to excite the admiration, and conciliate the esteem of mankind, are constrained so to act, as to become the objects of general contempt and detestation!

I am not in the habit of bestowing unbounded applause upon princes; I will not be suspected by my readers of paying court to ministers or their satellites; nor have I ever idolised power in whatever hands it has been placed. I bend the knee in adoration of the SUPREME BEING alone, to whom only belongs all glory, and honour, and praise upon earth. But, next to the bountiful Creator of this universe, I pay a respectful homage to the memory of the

immortal Louis. I call him *immortal*; because there can be no doubt, that, so long as the records of the transactions of man ſhall be preserved, the world will look up to him, as to a being who has exhibited the human character in a higher point of elevation than ever had been known before. When we look back to the records of past times, we try in vain to find a parallel among the annals of kings, of princes, of philosophers, and great men of the earth. The bleſsed JESUS, alone, affords a pattern of that unaffected dignity, that meekneſs, that wisdom and beneficence which characterised the last scenes in the life of the French monarch; and I have no doubt, that it was by a careful contemplation of that exalted pattern of all excellence, in the solitude to which he had been for some months condemned, that the degraded monarch, by humbling himself before the Supreme Being, learnt to elevate his soul to that exalted composure of mind, which so conspicuously dignified his last moments. It was in imitation of that divine pattern of beneficence alone, that, "being reviled, he reviled not again;" and the last words he uttered were employed in praying bleſsings on his blood thirsty persecutors. I fear not the imputation of enthusiasm for what I here say. In the cause of justice, and in vindication of innocence, the person who is aſhamed to expreſs his unbiaſsed opinion with freedom, deserves not the name of man *. No one entertained

* A friend to whom this paper was ſhown before publication, proposed to adduce Socrates as a parallel to Louis; but in this particular I find a great inferiority in the heathen philoſopher. Socrates was allowed to

a meaner opinion of Louis than myself, till the veil was withdrawn that hid his real character from public view. That veil being now withdrawn, in circumstances that admit not of the posibility of mistake, I think justice demands that this acknowledgement ſhould be made, in the most public and unequivocal manner:—Yes, Louis, thou hast fabricated for thyself, in the ſhort space of a few weeks, a crown of glory, that will accompany thy name to future ages, of which the utmost malice of thine enemies cannot deprive thee, the lustre of which no efforts of theirs will ever be able to extinguiſh!

I have here considered Louis merely as a *moral* agent, and have totally disregarded all *political* considerations, which, though of equal importance, I mean not here to bring into view. As a *king* his character is at present entirely out of the question: I have only paid respect to him as *a man*; and I conceive his existence in that character may be said to have only commenced when his regal functions ceased to be exercised. It was then only that his mind, deprived of all other aid, was forced to seek resources within itself alone, instead of relying upon

converse till the last moment, with his friends; to have the consolation of their sympathy, and to die with the consciousneſs of being held guiltleſs in the minds of men of integrity of all kinds. He was not taken by surpriſe, suddenly arraigned before a tribunal without warning or preparation of any sort; no attempt was made to insnare him by artful questions so as to lead him to inculpate himself. He was allowed to dictate his last advices to his admiring friends. His mouth was not stopped when his heart panted to pour forth those generous maxims which he knew would insure the good will of all future ages. In all these respects the fate of Louis was different, and infinitely more trying.

others. In this point of view his life has been ſhort, but wonderfully brilliant. During that ſhort period, his opponents, by a wanton display of ephemeron power, which is natural to little minds, have tried to degrade and to diſhonour him; but this they have found to be impoſsible. It was indeed in their power to despoil him of his crown, and to preclude him from enjoying those kind endearments in which the mind of man delights; but to rob him of his honour depended not on them. No human power can degrade or diſhonour a man, but himself alone. This is the natural *unalienable* right of man, which God conferred upon him at his birth, and of which no one can ever deprive him. A tyrant may degrade himself by abusing his power; but the person who unjustly suffers by it, if he acts properly, is only thus exalted the more. It is vice only which can debase the human soul, and degrade it from that highest pinnacle of glory, SELF RESPECT. When man does not venerate himself, he cannot look forward with a firm reliance to the prospects of futurity. In trying scenes his mind wavers, and he can find nothing to console him for the opprobrium which his misgiving mind forbodes will certainly await him. Bereft of present comfort, and hopeleſs of future enjoyment, his soul either sinks into a listleſs debility, or by aſsuming a desperate fury, braves every thing in a fit of frantic despair. How different from that calm, that mild, that steady composure, which conscious integrity, and the consolations of religious hopes inspire! They therefore who would deprive man of of this, his greatest consolation in scenes of the

deepest distreſs, would degrade the human character from its highest pinnacle of glory. They become the aſsaſsins, so to speak, of the human mind; for they thus deprive it of all that energy which exalts it above the power of tyrants, and would bring man down to be only upon a level with the brutes that periſh.

With regard to the fate of those of his family who have unfortunately survived him, nothing remains but a melancholy foreboding of miseries unknown. The character of the queen will no doubt be loaded with every infamy that calumny can invent, in order to be urged as an apology for the brutal indignities they have prepared for her, which can have no other object in view but to ſhorten the period of her existence, and to save them the riſk of exciting pity by sacrificing her life in public. The prince, poor innocent! has no other prospect but that of a speedy entrance into a state of bleſsed immortality, before his soul has had an opportunity of being stained with guilt. Sweet innocent! ages yet unborn will weep over thy untimely fate, when the memory of it ſhall be revived on the historic stage!! I commiserate before hand that untimely fate which but too surely awaits thee! Thou canst not be arraigned before a tribunal of justice. Even France itself, would be aſhamed of this: but the ready aſsistants of tyranny, poison, or aſsaſsination, will complete the tragedy. Heaven, alone, by turning the hearts of some individual, from public, or from private motives, to interest himself in thy fate, can rescue thee from the perilous state in which thou standest!

It is impoſsible to contemplate these scenes without casting a glance at the other personages who have acted, and are still acting a part in this tragedy; but I cannot think of degrading those already named, so far as to have the others mentioned in the same page. On a future occasion it is not impoſsible but I may add a few words on that disagreeable subject; for though it be exceedingly disgusting, it is at present of great importance.

UNCOMMON FACT IN NATURAL HISTORY.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

NATURAL history ought to be studied as a collection of facts, and not as the history of theories and opinions of philosophers, oftentimes vague and ill-founded. It does not always depend upon the intrinsic degree of probability in the phenomena observed, but rather upon facts founded on the testimony of people of known veracity. The following fact is submitted to your readers, and the writer would be well pleased to find a probable conjecture of its cause in some future number of your work.

A few days ago, a large beech tree was sawing up into planks in a ſhip builder's yard here. The tree was about twenty-six inches diameter, and of so fine a quality as to attract the notice of some gentlemen accidentally paſsing by; one of whom, on examining it, observed, near its center, a part apparently rotten; but on closer inspection he found the blemiſh was occasioned by a *hazel nut* being completely enveloped in the substance of the wood. The part

whereof, that immediately surrounded it, being soft, the nut was easily taken out, perfectly entire and sound; the colour only a little darker than the nut when a few weeks pulled off the tree. The nut has, since its being dried, ſhrunk a little, and has opened nearly its whole length, ſo wide as to ſhow the kernel to all appearance freſh. It may be added, that there was not the least communication to the cavity in which the nut was preserved, from the external part of the tree, in any direction whatever.

Leith, Feb. 11. 1793. M.

EXPLANATION OF THE PHENOMENON.

Though the phenomenon above described be very uncommon, it is not so difficult to be accounted for as many that daily occur in contemplating the objects that present themselves to our view. Wood is formed by an accretion of matter all on the surface of the tree, forming each year a ring all round, of more or leſs thickneſs, in proportion to circumstances; which rings, in most kinds of wood, are distinctly seen in a transverse section of the tree, and form the fibres of it when slit longitudinally. When one of these rings is once formed, it remains ever after of the same dimensions, and comes gradually to be placed at a greater and greater distance from the circumference of the tree, as the age of it increases; so that what was once the surface, comes to be very near the center of the tree. Now whatever matter is stuck into the tree, and remains firmly fixed there, comes to be gradually covered by the rings of wood that grow over and cover it; and if the matter of this extraneous substance be not of a corro-

sive nature, the wound heals over it entirely, and the wood, above the substance enveloped, becomes equally firm and sound with that of any other part of the tree. The truth of these observations is daily seen in regard to the knots of fir wood, all of which are the remains of branches which once grew upon the tree, and while they remained there interrupted the continuity of the longitudinal fibres. These branches, cut off, or broken over by any accident, become from that moment stationary in their growth; and as the fibrous rings increase, they gradually heal over the transverse section of these branches; so that the outer part of the wood, which has been formed over these, is perfectly free of knots, though these are perceived towards the center. This is the reason why all kinds of deal discover a much greater number of knots near the center than near the circumference of the tree. Now the nut in question has, by some accident, been indented into the surface of the tree while it was yet young; and, like the remains of a branch, has been gradually healed over; after which it has remained safely embedded in the wood till it was discovered by the sawers. From the researches here stated, it is plain there could be no opening into it. It is not at all a difficult matter to contrive thus to inclose in the heart of a tree an inscription of any sort, upon a piece of dead wood, which might be preserved undiscovered till future ages.

A DETACHED REMARK.

That man is my sincere friend, who will vindicate me behind my back, and tell my faults to my face.

HUMAN LIFE.

WRITTEN ON THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1792.

For the Bee.

Now has another year fulfill'd its course,
And in eternity's capacious gulph
Its fleeting days has lodged. Yet a few years,
A few revolving years, the space complete
Of frail man's destin'd course; forth he is sent
Into the world, fraught with the gayest hopes
Of scenes of happiness and future bliss.
All nature smiles around; echo the hills,
'And every sense, and every thought is joy!
The vernal sun which gilds the morn of life,
His race pursues unwearied, and attains
Meridian splendour. Then the soul expands,
And catches transport from the summer's gale,
Which fans the mead in Phœbus' scorching ray.
Tir'd of this visible diurnal scene,
Imagination then unbounded soars!
Our earth, and all it's cares, leaves far behind;
Travels through worlds unseen, through paths unknown,
'Sees forms of being varied as the stars
Which gild yon concave heav'n's resplendent arch:
Thence from effect, arises to the cause,
Of life, and happiness the common source.
But lo! the scene is chang'd, the sun declines;
For oft, amid the radiance of the sky,
The howling tempest, or the chilling blast
Of autumn, intervenes, to damp the soul,
And cool the fervour of our noontide joys;
Till winter, cold and cheerless, makes approach,
The phantoms of the spring to chace away;
For fancied good, to give substantial ill,
The proud to teach that they are only men,
To check presumptuous man's aspiring hopes,
And shew that happiness is but a dream.
The sun, his strength now spent, sinks in the west;
And shuts the drama of our short-liv'd day.
Thus flourishes and fades majestic man,
And such the destiny of all on earth.
Shall then dreadful night for ever last,
Nor morn her cheering ray again impart?
What, though dull night and silence long prevail,
Fair morn's pure dawn their clouds shall sure dispel,
And usher in on our transported sight

The glories of a never ending day!
The beauties of a scene for ever new!
Where virtue, peace, and harmony, shall dwell;
And in one common anthem all unite
To celebrate the great Creator's praise.

Edin. Jan. 1. 1793. MARCELLUS.

VERSES WRITTEN BY ELVINA.

For the Bee.

No longer death I tremble at thy pow'r,
No longer shrink affrighted from thy dart,
But, lo! to thee my joyless breast I bare,
O quickly pierce this wounded tortur'd heart!

For one dear child, alone, I wish'd to live,
That I might rear her steps in virtue's way;
Her youth to innocence and truth might form,
And point the path unto eternal day.
This darling child in whom my soul was bound,
Whom love and nature twisted round my heart,
Is dead!——————

Why do I hang o'er my pale infant's corpse,
And clasp it to my breast with tearful eye?
We try to animate her pallid lips,
When the sweet babe's a cherubim on high!

No fears to leave her friendless fill my mind,
And give keen anguish to approaching death;
Joyful my soul will rise to her abode,
While this weak frame moulders with her in earth.

A REFLECTION.

Could beauty, pomp, or thrones, bestow
The sweets and bliss of virtuous hours,
The regal pow'r of kings below,
Might steal the goddess to their bow'rs.

'Tis disappointment, pride or hate,
That wakes the rageful soul with ire,
Nor titles, pow'r, nor birth, nor state,
Can quiet the mind that's once on fire.

But still we find the happy prize
Which wealth and pow'r have sought in vain,
To rural huts the goddess flies,
Where truth adorns the humble swain.

ACCOUNT OF BENJAMIN BANNEKER A NEGRO CALCULATOR, PREFIXED TO HIS PENNSYLVANIA, DELAWARE, MARYLAND, AND VIRGINIA ALMANACK AND EPHEMERIS, FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1792. BALTIMORE, PRINTED AND SOLD BY W. GODDARD AND J. ANGELL.

For the Bee.

MESSRS GODDARD AND ANGELL, *Baltimore, Aug.* 20. 1791. "BENJAMIN BANNEKER, a free negro, has calculated an almanack for the ensuing year 1792; which being desirous to dispose of to the best advantage, he has requested me to aid his application to you, for that purpose. Having fully satisfied myself with respect to his title to this kind of authorship, if you can agree with him for the price of his work, I may venture to assure you, it will do you credit as editors, while it will afford you the opportunity to encourage talents that have thus far surmounted the most discouraging circumstances and prejudices.

"This man is about fifty-nine years of age. He was born in Baltimore county. His father was an *African*, and his mother the offspring of *African* parents. His father and mother having obtained their freedom, were enabled to send him to an obscure school, where he learned, when a boy, reading, writing, and arithmetic, as far as double position; and to leave him, at their deaths, a few acres of land, upon which he has supported himself ever since, by means of economy and constant labour, and preserved a fair reputation. To struggle incessantly against want is nowise favourable to improvement. What he had learned, however, he did not forget; for, as some hours of leisure will occur in the most toilsome life, he availed himself of these, not to read, and acquire knowledge from writings of genius and discovery; for of such he had none,

but to digest and apply, as occasions presented, the few principles of the few rules of arithmetic he had been taught at school. This kind of mental exercise formed his chief amusement, and soon gave him a facility in calculation that was often serviceable to his neighbours, and at length attracted the attention of the Meſsrs Ellicotts, a family remarkable for their ingenuity, and turn to the useful mechanics. It is about three years since Mr George Ellicott lent him Mayer's Lunar Tables, Ferguson's Astronomy, Leadbetter's Tables, and some astronomical instruments; but without accompanying them with either hint or instruction that might further his studies, or lead him to apply them to any useful result. These books and instruments, the first of the kind he had ever seen, opened a new world to Benjamin, and from thenceforward he employed his leisure in astronomical researches. He now took up the idea of the calculations for an almanack, and actually completed an entire set for the last year, upon his original stock of arithmetic. Encouraged by his first attempt, he entered upon his calculation for 1792; which, as well as the former, he began and finiſhed without the least information or aſsistance from any person, or other books than those I have mentioned; so that whatever merit is attached to his present performance, is exclusively and peculiary his own.

"I have been the more careful to investigate these particulars and to ascertain their reality, as they form an interesting fact in the history of man, and as you may want them to gratify curiosity, I have no objection to your selecting them for your account of Benjamin. I consider this negro as a freſh proof that the powers of the mind are disconnected with the colour of the ſkin, or, in other words, a striking contradiction to Mr Hume's doctrine, that the negroes are naturally inferior to the whites, and

unsusceptible of attainments in arts and sciences. In every civilized country, we ſhall find thousands of whites liberally educated, and who have enjoyed greater opportunities of inſtruction than this negro, his inferiors in those intellectual acquirements and capacities, that form the most characteriſtic feature of the human race. But the ſyſtem that would aſſign to these degraded blacks an origin different from the whites, if it is not ready to be deſerted by philoſophers, muſt be relinquiſhed, as ſimilar inſtances multiply; and that ſuch muſt frequently happen, cannot well be doubted, ſhould no check impede the progreſs of humanity, which, meliorating the condition of ſlavery, neceſſarily leads to its final extinction.—Let however, the iſſue be what it will, I cannot but wiſh, on this occaſion, to ſee the public patronage keep pace with my black friend's merit. I am, gentlemen, your moſt obedient ſervant,

JAMES M'HENRY."

ON LITERARY ENVY, &c. A LITERARY OLLA.

For the Bee.

"NOT many years ago, when I was at Datchet, I ſaw the juſtly celebrated Herſchel, before he was with great propriety made a doctor of laws, as a reward for his aſtronomical diſcoveries.

"That extraordinary man, the Columbus of the heavens, [who needed no common place diſtinction to point the finger of univerſal applauſe,] had then twelve men by relays, working on the lathe of his great ſpeculum, and he was attended by a groupe of curious viſitors, of which I had the houour to compoſe a part.

"All eyes and tongues were buſy.

" After much, and, no doubt, very *judicious* and satisfactory investigation, one of the groupe, who seemed to be a very sage astronomer, whispered softly in my ear, 'What a lucky fellow Herschel is! — *I* gave him the hint of *this* thirty years ago, in the pump room at Bath; and now he keeps all his devices to himself in mystery, like a Jacob Bhemen, and gives out chapters, and views, and stratums of the stars, as Mahomet gave his disciples chapters of the Koran, after having been carried up by Gabriel to the seventh heaven.'

" Ay! (says another,) *Do ten stesen kay ton kosmon kinese.*" Read the president's speech on the reflecting telescope, and you will see to whom the world is obliged *for all these rareshows.*

" Will this ever lead to the discovery of the longitude?" (said a third,) 'It is the philosophy of astronomy, Sir! The real use of astronomy, Sir! to which *I* direct my attention.—I freely confess I am no hand at magick lanthorns.'

" I remember when I was in China, (said a fourth,) that I heard the rationale of the thing from a missionary at Pekin, and Sir Isaac Newton, you know, speaks of the application of a microscope to the catoptric telescope.

" He imagines that the new planet must have satellites, but the devil a satellite there is to be seen about it! —— A p—x upon rationales and analogies!—Will the man limit the variety of the universe!" (said another.)

" I was silent as death; — but in the midst of all this chattering, in bounced a worthy honest looking country gentleman, in a blue coat and scarlet neck, with a hunting cap, and his whip in his hand; and he came up in the frankest, and pleasantest manner imaginable, putting the whole company to profound silence, with " What, what gentleman?— what are you about now?

diſsecting poor Herschel, and driving him out of your system like a comet.

" I have a large family, and enough to do in the world; but he ſhall have the use of my rooms and my purse too, gentlemen, to carry on his improvements!

" One can't make an astronomer every day, as one can make a lord, or a biſhop, or a baronet. No, no, gentlemen! no, no!"——And away the worthy Nimrod went, and away went I.

ORIGINAL LETTER.

For the Bee.

Sir James Foulis to Thomas Pennant, esq.

I HAVE with great pleasure perused, oftener than once, the account of your tour through Scotland; written, not with the spirit of an adversary, that comes to spy out the nakedneſs of the land, but like an impartial observer, who can approve what is right, and blame what is amiſs. There is only one point, which ſhall be mentioned below, in which prejudice has biaſsed your judgement. Having lately looked over your first volume, on which I made some remarks, I thought it would be proper to communicate them to you; as I was persuaded you would not grudge the small expence of the postage of a letter, to learn some particulars about a country, for viewing which you had taken so much trouble.

Old Cambus is so written by copying from the pronunciation of southern Scots, who know nothing about the matter. The true name of the place is Alt Camus, *i. e.* Rivulus Sinus, being so called from a rill that runs into a bay of the sea. If you had been as fond as I am of mutton ham fried with eggs, you would not have com-

plained of your entertainment. However, that inconveniency is now removed by erecting a new inn, about a mile to the eastward, which saves some ill road, and gives provisions suited to an Engliſh taste.

Dunbar signifies hill top; Dunglaſs, a grey hill. The Baſs consists of two huge rocks, clapped together by some convulsion of nature, but lying in such a manner at bottom, that a gentlemen found a paſsage pervious from north to south; whether by sand, or other rubbiſh, it may be closed up now, I know not.

You have taken the account of the two heads in the wall of the Netherbow of Edinburgh from some blundering author. There is no such inscription as you mention.

George's Square does not take up twenty-seven acres, but betwixt two and three.

Garbh signifies rough. We have many places of that name in Scotland.

Leven is a rapid current; Loch Leven, a lake from which such a current proceeds. You mention the blow the Engliſh received at that place; but you have not got the whole history. The Engliſh had beseiged a castle in the lake, and by blocking up the mouth of the river that runs from thence, had almost drowned the Scots in the castle. But St George's day happening in the mean time, St Andrew slily took the advantage, came out with small boats, broke the bank, drowned and slew many of the besiegers, who were most devoutly drunk. This ought not to have been omitted, as it is the only useful part of the history; for to you or me it matters not whether a parcel of Scots or Engliſh butchered the opposite party, five or six hundred years ago. But to military men it gives a most useful leſson,—how much they ought to be aware of the dangers that may arise from the

indulgence commonly used on great solemnities. In a regiment that I commanded in a popiſh country, the very officer on guard was ſtabbed by a private ſoldier, on the evening of a feſtival, though I had previouſly taken all poſsible care to prevent the diſorders that commonly ariſe from ſuch religious ſolemnities.

The true old name of Taymouth was *Beul-loch*, *i. e.* mouth of a lake.

Fur-bhuaichaille, ſhould be written *Fair-bhaichaille*, *i. e.* watch (watchman,) of ſhepherds.

The word *cant* does not riſe from the name of the preacher. *Cant* is a Gaelic word ſignifying language. Speakers of Engliſh applied that word to every ſpeech they did not underſtand.

Murray, a county once much more extenſive than it is now, was peopled with Engliſh by one of our kings. But as the account of that affair would take up a ſheet by itſelf, I ſhall paſs it over here. They were the very people that lord Littleton, in his hiſtory of Henry II. says were carried off to Scotland, and killed there. A ridiculous story!—as if the Scots had driven off 100,000 or more, on purpoſe to kill them for ſport, when they might have killed them much more eaſily on the very ſpot where they caught them. This, too, was the reaſon that the Highlanders, as you mention in the life of Cameron, thought it lawful to plunder them.

Black-mail, (not meal,) was the greateſt diſgrace of Scotland. Yet if great examples could juſtify a ſcandalous action, it might be juſtified by the inſtance of moſt of the ſovereigns of Europe, who now actually pay *black-mail* to the piratical ſtates of Africa.

You mention *Edardachils*, the true name is *Edir-dachoille*. Literally tranſlated, it means betwixt two woods, which has formerly been the caſe with that ſpot, though perhaps ſcarcely a ſtump of one tree can be found there.

It remains, now, that I point out the passage in which prejudice has blinded your better judgement. You express great compassion for what you suppose to be the misery of the poor people of the isle of Mull, who gather their simple, or, as you call it, their wretched food, of limpets, *&c.* among the rocks. Yet you tell us that disease is scarcely known among them; that the women generally bring forth twins; and most of them live to a great old age. Now I ask you for what reason any prudent man would eat, but to preserve life, health, and to see a numerous offspring? Are these three great blessings the consequences of want of proper food? I have known many opulent families in England, where the parents were pining at the view of one or two sickly children; and others, over a full table, lamenting for the want of heirs to a great estate, and that their inheritance, to use a Scotch expression, must go to folks of *fremit blood.* These disconsolate people then neglect the large sirloin and the plumb pudding, and eat the flesh of vipers, and snakes of divers sorts, in hopes that such detestable food, (on which a hungry Mull man would look with horror,) may inspire the vigour of which the use of their full meals has deprived them: whether these two lines may be better applied than to the Mull men,

> Fatal effects of luxury and ease,
> They eat their poison, and they drink disease.

You would do most beneficial service to many of your countrymen, if you could prevail on them to leave the puddings and dumplings of England, and live a while with the inhabitants of Mull. Or if the luxurious rascals are afraid to venture on the expedition, for fear of the ill entertainment you complain of at Aa Camus, let them send their wives, and they will soon receive irrefragable proofs of the virtuous efficacy of being

A Lover of Shell Fish.

Descriptive Sketch of the Island Papa Stour*, Shetland

For the Bee.

Then inhabitants of Britain are nearly as much unacquainted with the true value and present state of the Shetland isles, as they are with the dominions of the Great Mogul. Hence we ransack the most distant parts of the globe in search of novelties, and engage in enterprises at an immense expence, to attain acquisitions at a great distance, which are not of half the value of those which lie neglected, because unknown, at home. These remarks do not apply to the Shetland isles alone; but to many other of the valuable appurtenances of Scotland. It is, therefore, with pleasure, that a few pages of this Miscellany shall be occasionally spared for short notices of these neglected isles. Their value, however, is not to be appreciated by their appearance and present state; but that which, by industry, and a proper direction to the powers of man, they might be made to bear.

This island is in the possession of the lairds of Busta and Lochend, the former having 78 merks †, or one-third; and the latter 156, or two-thirds, reckoned ten penny land ‡. The soil, which is loamy, with a mixture of clay and sand chiefly, is excellent, and capable of the highest degree of cultivation that its latitude can admit; or rather might be so meliorated as to vie, in its productions, with places removed five degrees to the southward or it ‖. It is so remarkable for bear, that at hrave often yields ten or twelve lispounds § of corn, and in some instances more; though the general run, or average, does not exceed eight.

* Stour, in the Norse language, signifies big, to distinguish this isle from the two others, smaller than it, called *Papa*.

† This is an indefinite term of mensuration, as it applies to lands, in some places more, and in others less than an acre.

‡ By this is meant a yearly reddendo of nearly one and two-thirds pounds of butter, and L. 1 : 6 : 8 Scotch money, for each merk of land.

‖ *Vide* M'Kenzie's draft, where it is accurately laid down.

§ A lispound is commonly considered equal to thirty-two pounds English.

In the commonty there is fine pasture, particularly for ſheep, which are here of a large ſize, and yield good mutton and wool. But the peats are of an inferior ſort, as there is ſcarcely an appearance of moſs obſervable throughout the island; nor any grounds laid down to meadow, owing to miſmanagement of farms, and a greed for fiſhers. The lands are parcelled out in ſuch ſubdiviſions to the tenantry, and the common ſo cut up for peats, that almoſt all the cattle are fed on the inclosed, or arable ground. Hence the want of butter and hay, and the lamentable proſpect that this fine island will, in a ſhort time, be peelled to the very channel, for a ſcanty firing. And to the ſame cauſe may be aſcribed the deterioration of crops of bear; the chief grounds having, of late years, been allotted to potatoes, and then bear and oats, in continual rotation; at leaſt rarely allowed to reſt in graſs. Inſtead of this ruinous ſyſtem, were the lands let in large farms, they would be reſtored to their priſtine fertility; the tenants would be enabled to raiſe better crops, larger cattle, and butter and hay for all their purpoſes. They might, then, afford to pay double rent for their poſſeſſions, aided by the proſecution of the ſmall fiſhing, and herrings, which frequently ſurround this iſland, and fill its inlets, or creeks, in immenſe ſhoals.

Thus a ſource of wealth, as is yet unknown to the inhabitants, who are generally reckoned poor, would flow into this iſland, and render the importation of meal and malt a leſſer article of commerce in this country, than it has been of a long time. By theſe means the people would become rich, and what is of more conſequence, happier in themſelves, than their preſent expoſure to thoſe arts which are almoſt inevitably connected with the proſecution of the ling fiſhing, by different competitors, on a large ſcale, can poſſibly produce. Were it not well authenticated, nd indeed pretty generally known, I ſhould want faith to

credit the fact, that those to whom the rents of this place are paid, ſhould be ſo blind to their own intereſt, as well as to that of their tenantry, which is intimately connected with it, as to ſanction upwards of ſeventy boats crews to row from it. To this circumſtance it is owing, in a great meaſure, that both large and ſmall fiſh, are ſometimes ſcarce; that the corn and graſs grounds are much trodden down; and the peats rendered leſs valuable than they otherwiſe would be. Hence, too, the introduction and ſale of great quantities of ſpirits, tea, ſnuff, and other merchandize, corrupts the morals of the people, waſtes their ſubſtance, and leads them to diſſipation of almoſt every kind.

Here are ſome tolerable harbours, or inlets of the ſea. Of theſe, Hammavoe, which lies on the weſt ſide, is the beſt, being pretty capacious, and having good anchorage; but the entry to it is very narrow and hazardous without a pilot, on account of a large ridge of rocks, that almoſt runs acroſs the paſſage, although the gut is eleven feet deep. Culliavoe is the next conſiderable place for anchoring ſmall veſſels, and is noted for a tolerable beach, which on one ſide runs ſo ſteep, that ſloops can lie and take in their cargoes by the help of a ſmall plank; an inestimable advantage this, beſide that of a ſafe entry. The other inlets or creeks, are convenient for ſmall craft, and are generally well furniſhed with beaches; particularly the one occupied by the preſent tackſman and factor. It is, by far, the beſt for finiſhing or completing the cure of ſalted ling, tuſk, and cod.

As theſe places of anchorage are well fenced from the ocean, and once yielded nine tons of kelp, it is highly preſumable, that, inſtead of this quantity, at the expiry of every three years, the ſhores might be cut in ſuch a manner, as to render four tons yearly, beſides the quantity ariſing from ſea ware, with which this iſland has been often bleſſed, and by which it produces certain as-

toniſhing crops of bear; nay, in this production, I am convinced it ſtands unrivalled in almoſt every corner of the world.

The corn and graſs grounds are truly beautiful, and open a wide field for contemplation. Nature has indeed been very bountiful, but art parſimonious in this delightful ſpot. Were their powers united in an elegant manner, it would become the admiration, as it now may be deemed the garden, of Shetland.

Here there is alſo a warren, together with otters and ſeals, and a few of the birds moſt common to the country. The tide of Papa ſound, which ſeparates it from the main land to the ſouthward, is oft times ſo rapid and dangerous, that it cannot be ſafely forded. Under this deſcription, may be reckoned the paſſage to the Vae Skerries, which lie about a league off land, nearly in the direction of N. N. W.

These rocks, which in boiſterous weather wear a dreadful appearance from the horn of Papa Stour, have yet been known to ſhelter men and boats, when defeated or overtaken by a high ſea, on their returning from the ling fiſhing. They lie in a cluſter, and form ſomewhat like a baſon. Beſides this convenience, they ſhelve ſo much, that boats can be drawn up and ſecured upon them. Nay, there is an inſtance of a lodge having been erected there by Dunroſneſs men *, for a fiſhing ſtation. They have not a ſward of graſs, but abound in limpets of a large ſize. They alſo produce flint; and are much reſorted to by ſeals. In fine, these Skerries may be conſidered as an appendage of Papa, although conſiderably diſjoined from it. At all events, they are a great convenience.

* The pariſh that bears this name, is diſtant about thirty-five miles from these Skerries and bounded on the ſouth by Lumburgh Head.

The two holms, which lie near the western point of this island, and are poſſeſsed solely by the laird of Lochend, feed horned cattle and ſheep, of each a few, to much advantage; although waſhed by the ocean, in almost every direction, in winter, in so much that the graſs is often so brackiſh, that they cannot eat it. However, it is notour, that some oxen that had been kept there for a series of years, produced an amazing quantity of fine tallow.

It is said, that Papa Stour, and its appendages, are still redeemable by the heirs of Mouat of Bequalee, the original proprietor, by whom the same were impignorated to Busta and Lochend, for certain sums of money advanced him. The vestige of his policy, and coat of arms, is still visible, and not at all contemptible for the times in which he lived.

The church, though an ancient structure, is sufficient to contain the inhabitants. The parson does duty once in three weeks, as he has two other pariſhes under his care. But the drawn ſheaf, to which he is entitled here, forms a considerable part of his stipend.

I ſhould be wanting to myself, were I to close these strictures, without heeding the civilities I received in this island, where I stayed three days with a friend. Such marks of urbanity, chearfulneſs, and friendſhip, claim my warmest and most grateful tribute of praise. Beneficent actions indeed, are amply rewarded in a happier stage of existence, independently of those placid satisfactions which they always communicate to virtuous minds. And, how much soever even a public acknowledgement may gratify, it can only convey an imperfect idea of what is felt. But

> " If e'er a gleam of comfort glads my soul,
> " If e'er my brow to wonted smiles unbends;
> " 'Tis when the fleeting minutes as they roll,
> " Can add one gleam of pleasure to my friends. C. S.

Edin. Nov. 20. 1792.

ANECDOTE OF MARESHAL DE FEUILLADE.

Louis xvi. one day aſked the mareſhal de Feuillade, what M. de Calenat could be good for. "Sire, (ſaid he,) if your majeſty wants a general of an army, he is very worthy of that employment.—If you want a chancellor, he will nobly fill the functions of it.—If you judge it proper to make him a miniſter, his capacity is, in every reſpect, equal to the taſk." At the time M. de Feuillade ſaid this, he was at variance with M. de Calenat.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

An eſſay entitled the *Road to Perfection*, with extracts, is received.

The *Directions for preſerving objects of Natural Hiſtory*, are alſo come to hand, and ſhall appear as ſoon as poſſible.

The very intereſting unedited *Fragments* of Bacon are alſo thankfully received.

The Editor is much obliged to *C. P.* for the obſervations on mechaniſm. Both the contrivances he mentions have been adopted in particular caſes; and have been found liable, in *practice*, to objections that do not readily occur in theory.—Of theſe more particular notice will be taken on ſome future occaſion.

The lines by *Timothy Sober* are received; and ſhall have a place with the firſt convenience.

The communication by *Marcellus*, has been too long overlooked. For this, and other things of the ſame kind, the Editor finds it neceſſary to apologiſe, by aſcribing it to the confuſion occaſioned by a ſearch made in his office, that he would not have here mentioned at all, had he not been afraid that ſome pieces may have been entirely loſt on that occaſion, which he hopes at any rate will be few. He can only recollect one ſmall bundle of papers amiſſing, and that luckily conſiſted for the moſt part of his own writings, but ſome others he can recollect to have been in it, particularly a paper from *Trader Political*, and one ſigned *Attyanax*, and another *Ruricola Alter*. He hopes ſtill to be able to recover theſe; but ſhould that not be in his power, he hopes theſe correſpondents will obligingly pardon him for this involuntary apparent diſreſpect.

*** *The* Second Order of Gems *will be inſerted after a ſhort interval, to give room to ſome other articles that have been too long deferred.*

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27. 1793.

CRITICAL REMARKS ON SOME CELEBRATED ENGLISH AUTHORS.

LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN OF LITERARY EMINENCE LATELY DECEASED, TO A YOUNG GENTLEMAN WHO HAD REQUESTED HIS ADVICE IN REGARD TO THE PROPER MODE OF CONDUCTING HIS STUDIES.

For the Bee.

I AM glad to find, my dear ——— that you are so keenly engaged in the study of history and the belles lettres; and I have no doubt, but if you persevere, you will soon make such proficiency as to furnish yourself a very interesting amusement. But in this, as in every other pursuit, you must lay your account with meeting with disappointments. Here you will soon perceive, that all is not gold that glitters; and when you think you have acquired full information on one head, it will not be long before you will be obliged to unlearn what you have been

taught, and to begin anew the laborious task of investigation after you thought it had been completed. To assist you as much as is in my power, I shall endeavour to give you some general notions of what you are to expect in the writings of some of our most celebrated authors. To know the general character of these writers, will put you on your guard in reading their works, and will the better enable you to avoid their errors, and to benefit by their knowledge.

HUME is, with justice, accounted a writer of the first rank in this nation. He possessed great energy of mind, a strong nervous mode of expression, and a concise and perspicuous stile. Few authors have written with greater perspicuity, and none knew better than he did how to place a favourite object in a conspicuous point of view, or to sink what did not serve his purpose in the shade, or to keep it entirely out of sight. Yet with all these talents he had great defects. Nature bestowed upon him strong mental powers; but he relied too much on their assistance. He was indolent in research; and wished to enjoy literary fame at as small an expence of this kind of literary drudgery as possible. Fond of metaphysical investigations, which gave full scope to his speculative ardour without much extraneous research, he attached himself to that mode of reasoning from his earliest infancy; and never could depart from it. Hence it has happened that his reasoning, though specious and plausible, is often sophistical and erroneous. His notions of political economy, not being founded on facts, but on the

imaginations of his own mind, are, in general, crude, and imperfect; and his speculations on these subjects fallacious. Being a stranger to mathematical knowledge, and in nowise versant in general physics, he was unable to appreciate the merit of a Bacon or a Newton. Their works made nearly the same impreſsion on his mind, as a description of colours may probably produce on the imagination of a blind man. A Shakespeare and a Milton were, in like manner, greatly beyond the sphere of his mental ken. Destitute of those perceptions, which convey to the mind those exquisite sensations denominated by the word taste, he read their writings with a frigid indifference, and wondered what any person could see in them, to excite those extravagant emotions which he viewed as little short of insanity. To the pleasures and pains of love, he too was a stranger *. Can we then wonder that the judgement he formed of men and things was often erroneous? Yet his chief aim, in every part of his history, is to represent the actions of men as proceeding from motives which were familiar to him. It is therefore uniformly tinged with a colouring, that is far from poſseſsing that infinite diversity which nature invariably produces; and which Shakespeare would have imitated. In accompanying him, you

* Never was a more unnatural connection formed between two men, than that which was attempted between Hume and Rouſseau. It was like an attempt to unite fire and ice. The result is well known. It was exactly what any man of sense who knew them both could have predicted. Hume and Rouſseau no more understood each other, than if the one had known no other language but Hebrew, and the other English.

are introduced into a fairy land, which is extremely beautiful while you skim the surface only; but no sooner do you attempt to enter more deeply on the subject, than you find you have been deceived at every step; and that nothing can be more fallacious than the picture he has given of the transactions that have come under his review.

ROBERTSON possesses talents of a different kind, that are not less conspicuous, and defects that as necessarily result from these, as those which belonged to his illustrious cotemporary. His mind, less vigorous, though more cultivated, dared not to range so much at large in the regions of Parnassus. He hazards not such daring thoughts; nor clothes them in such ardent expressions. His language is easy, flowing, and correct; his periods musical, and elegantly rounded; but his thoughts are not so natural nor so easy; nor dares he venture to be so concise and clear. No adept in the principles of political legislation, and conscious of this defect, he tries to conceal it by a combination of beautiful words, which, though conveying no precise ideas, seem to discover great depth of reasoning to those who are no better informed than himself. Unable to trace the actions of men from those principles that affected their various minds, he has contrived to write in a manner that did not render this defect perceptible. His history is a string of aphorisms, of which the events he relates are adduced as illustrations; the mind is therefore prejudiced before it becomes acquainted with the facts on which that judgement is founded. And should it happen, that the

facts, as they really occurred, do not prove exact illustrations of the aphorism, can we be surprised that they should be sometimes so moulded as to make them seem perfectly fitted for the purpose? From this mode of writing history, you will easily perceive that accurate information is not be obtained.

But notwithstanding these great defects, it is not without reason that Dr Robertson has obtained a very high degree of applause: for few writers, perhaps, in any tongue, have excelled him in the purity of his language, in the luxuriant flow of his sentences, and the elegant turning of his periods; and in regard to the perspicuity of his arrangement, and the distinctness of his narrative, where he confines himself to narrative alone, I conceive that he leaves all other writers far behind him. This peculiarity gives to his writings a charm, that an indolent reader searches for in vain in other performances. And though a man of deep knowledge is disgusted at his political remarks, and the mere Tyro in philosophy smiles at his physical observations, yet his writings will be read with pleasure, even by the learned, where they can get over these stumbling blocks; and by the careless votaries of pleasure and amusement, they will be long prized as possessing inestimable beauties. If you read them with proper discrimination, you will be both pleased and informed: but never forget that though you may thus obtain a tolerable idea of some of the resting places on the road through which you have travelled, yet you must not depend upon your knowledge of the country from these sources.

As to Dr Johnson, concerning whom you are so anxious to have my opinion, I fear you will not find my notions quadrate with your own on that subject. Nature formed for him a gigantic mind. Education and habit reduced it to the stature of a dwarf. Relying upon that kind of intuitive store, which nature had conferred so liberally upon him, he, like a spendthrift heir, was continually drawing upon this as a bank: his draughts were of course often dishonoured; and on these occasions, noise, bombast, and impertinence, were substituted for wit and argument. He was a miserable being, perpetually despising others, because he saw that they had not perceptions adequate to his own; and perpetually acting absurdities, that placed him below the meanest of his companions. He struggled through life, till near the last period of it, in poverty and continued warfare, despising and despised, unless by a few who ministered to his vanity, that they might derive some consequence from it in the eyes of the multitude, and some profit after his death. And they have satiated themselves upon his remains abundantly.

His writings are, what might have been expected from such a man. Towards the latter part of his days, when he thought he could indulge his humour, there are many strong and luminous flashes, buried among a chaos of rubbish and confusion. Yet even that chaotic mass has something of the terrible and sublime; the flashes that there occur are like the glare of lightning, that serve to make the impression of the gloom more awful; but nothing is just, natu-

ral, or true *, for any continuance, that ever dropped from his pen.

Of all the productions in the English language, his dictionary is the most surprising; and at some future period, it may serve to illustrate the economy of the times, better than any other performance. Perhaps there are not in the whole compass of two large folio volumes, one hundred words accurately and truly explained; yet the work has gone through, I believe, fifty editions; and has been cried up, for more than thirty years, as the sublimest production of genius that was ever offered to the public. The secret of the whole matter is explained, by being simply told, that between twenty and thirty of the most capital booksellers in Britain were original proprietors in the work; who took care that the public mind should be *abundantly* impressed in its favour. There is a secret in every business; and if ever you should beco. . an author, let this be a lesson for you.

This was a work he undertook with reluctance; for nothing could be more contrary to the natural bent of his genius or dispositions than that was; unless, perhaps, the commenting upon Shakespeare, which he was compelled from the impulse of poverty to undertake; and which, after long delays, was at last produced: a work that even the powerful influence

* The writer has here expressed himself with a carelessness, which, though natural, and perhaps allowable in *private* epistolary writing, ought not to be allowed here to pass unobserved. It is evident he does not mean to accuse Johnson of writing falsehoods; but that, speaking merely in the language of the painter, he refers entirely to juxtaposition of delineation and picturesque truth. *Edit.*

of the booksellers could scarcely save a very few years from perdition.

As an entertaining writer, Johnson has very uncommon merit. Though ignorant of the principles of moral science; though unacquainted with men, and a stranger to the manners of the world; though indolent to excess, and so dreadfully averse to reading, that he never could get through the Bible, a book he professed to adore, and which he had, in vain, for thirty years, made daily vows to God that he would finish; though daily dunned for money, and at a loss where to find it; yet amidst all these harassments, he composed a daily paper, for a considerable time, with great applause. To please the multitude, and to save himself the trouble of study, he adopted a singular and happy device. He contrived to introduce a number of high sounding words, and with wonderful address, arranged them into triads; and constructed his sentences so as to be capable of being pronounced *ore rotundo*, and to run on with wonderful facility; so that he who ran might read, and he who read believed that the meaning was excellent, when in truth there was perhaps no meaning at all, or that which was not worth the searching for. Let him who thinks no genius is required for this purpose, try to do the like; and he will then be satisfied that Dr Johnson was a man of genius.

The only prose work that ever Johnson wrote, *con amore*, was the Lives of the Poets. There we discover the spoiled child. Flashes of genius buried in an overwhelming load of vanity, petulance, peevishness and ill nature. What a despicable creature is

man, when he is left to the freedom of his own will!

Of all the literary men in my time, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN occupied the first rank in respect to elegance, conjoined with philosophical accuracy, and depth of observation. Every subject he treated, assumed, under his hand, a new and more inviting appearance than any other person could ever give it. His magical touch converted the science of electricity into one of the most interesting amusements that was ever laid open to the minds of men. Politics, religion, science, in all its branches, which used to be dry and unamiable studies, he taught by apologues, fables, and tales, calculated not less to inform, than to amuse; and these are always constructed with an elegance of taste that is highly delightful. The miscellaneous philosophical works of Franklin, I consider as one of the most valuable presents that can be put into the hands of youth. Read them my dear, —— with care. If you can lay them aside with indifference, you have not those dispositions of mind I have flattered myself you possess. In perusing them, you will find more amusement than in reading a romance, and be more improved than even in listening to some sermons. I know no book from which you can derive so much improvement and amusement.

Adieu my dear boy! When I have leisure I shall answer your other requests *.

* The Editor values very highly those writings which tend to enlarge the human mind, and to free it from that servile respect to *names*, which but too much prevails. He therefore considers himself as much obliged to

Account of the present state of the Court of the Nizam in India, communicated by a correspondent.

For the Bee.

The court of the Nizam, although the most powerful mufsulman prince in India, except Tippoo, is by no means so splendid as the ideas we have been accustomed to form of the famous country of Golconda would lead us to expect. There is a mixture of grandeur and meanneſs, which must disgust every one accustomed to European elegance. At a grand durbar, as the mochuroun, the great mufsulman festival, when we paid him a visit, he was seated on his musnud, in the midst of his omrahs, covered with jewels, to the value of many lacks of rupees, whilst his palace was illuminated with tallow candles, fixed in stabble lanthorns, which were snuffed by a dirty one-eyed boy, with hardly a rag to cover his nakedneſs; so little attention is paid to uniformity. We generally pay him a visit once or twice a month; and he has been once here to visit captain Kennaway, our resident; an honour which he never deigns to pay

the person who has favoured him with the foregoing communication, which, though written with a freedom that some may disapprove; and though some things are aſserted, that many will think of a doubtful nature; yet as the remarks bear, upon the whole, great marks of candour, and are perfectly free from malevolence, they can only tend to make the reader think for himself, and then decide in the manner his judgement ſhall approve. He will be much obliged to his correspondent for the sequel of these remarks if convenient. Few things are of more general utility, han judicious hints for directing the bent of youthful studies. *Edit.*

any of his own subjects. We go to the durbar, each seated on his elephant, and attended by a large train of servants on camels, &c. and our escort of two companies of sepoys, their drums beating the grenadier march; and dismounting at the outer court, walk by narrow paſsages, (the infallible marks of despotism,) to the Mah-tab Mohal, or palace of the moon; where, leaving our Persian slippers at the edge of the carpet, we make our salaams to the prince, and squat down upon our hams, at his right hand, next his minister, where he converses with us in Persian till we have leave to retire. This custom of throwing off our slippers being general in all the courts of Hindostan, brings to my remembrance an *impromptu* of my friend Law's and Mr Fowke, whom you must have heard of. He was rather a sloven, and Law seeing him enter the visir's durbar at Lucknow, with his toes peeping out of his stockings, immediately repeated,

> "From trifles, best a character we know,
> "*Ex pede Herculem*,—Fowke from his toe."

The Nizam is an elderly man, without much dignity in his appearance. He is triflingly curious about European arts, without wiſhing to understand their principles, or to make them useful to his country. He has electrifying machines, telescopes, microscopes, &c. with which he amazes his fat headed omrahs, and the ladies of his zenanah. He told us t'other day, that he knew very well, what the pomatum, with which we dreſsed our hair, was composed of; but would not mention it, as a muſsulman seldom speaks of a hog, but by the name of *Jan-war*,

the animal. We could not you, may suppose, stand up for the cleanlineſs of the custom. He spoke also of the bulse of diamonds he had sent to his majesty, which the persecutors of Mr Hastings had attributed to an intrigue of his, and inquired about their reception in England. He has written a congratulation to his majesty on his recovery; but so ignorant were all his people, out of their own sphere, as to addreſs it to "Great Britain, king George of France and England," or something to that purpose. This will however be corrected in Calcutta. The Nizam is generally reckoned a mild sovereign, although his prime minister was, last year, murdered by his order, whilst presenting a petition [illegible] durbar, for some want of respect in not leaving his friends, to whom he was giving an entertainment, and making his salaams to the prince who was paſsing the street. This is the eastern mode of enforcing politeneſs. Our doctor had the honour, upon our arrival here, of curing the wounds of the present minister, received from the poignard of a disappointed jagheerdar, who was killed, with all his followers, in the attempt. The honour, however, is conceived as more than adequate to the trouble; and this would be his only recompence for the cure of the whole court. The doctor, however, employs himself much more to his liking, in daily giving medicines and advice, to hundreds of poor wretches, who flock from all parts of the country, when tired of the unavailing nostrums of their own ignorant doctors. This, although rather an expensive amusement, pleases him with the idea of giving dignity to physic, by bestowing health gra-

tuitously, and relieving miseries which neither sloth nor luxury have caused. The science of physic, he tells me, is at a very low ebb with them; they have only got receipts from some of the Arabian physicians, which they know not how to alter according to symptoms, and hardly understand from which of the numerous ingredients any succefs is to be expected. Every medicine is with them a specific, and their bigotry keeps pace with their ignorance. The *mobliey*, or priest, is as often applied to as the physician, and with the same chance of succefs. Our doctor lately cured a boy pofsefsed with five devils, by a single dose of tartar emetic, which, to be sure, operated so violently, that not a devil could keep his post.

The Nizam can muster an army of three or four hundred thousand men, and mostly cavalry; but they would not stand before our London trained bands. We escaped a march with such a disorderly set, by the Nizam's giving up his intention of marching out to meet the *paſhwa* of the Mahrattas, who was to advance from Poonah, to have a friendly conference, where we must of course have accompanied him. He has been attempting to discipline some battalions of sepoys in the Engliſh manner; but they resemble the Engliſh sepoys in nothing but their coats. Indeed our great security in India, consists, I think, in the impofsibility of training soldiers without European officers. Even in our own service, a sepoy will return from two months leave of absence from his battalion, with the certainty of being sent to

drill, from his having forgot every thing he had before learned. The Nizam has some Frenchmen in his service, but they are of little estimation. As a proof of the advantages he derives from his attention to European improvements, he had employed an Engliſh adventurer here, to make him the largest piece of artillery in the world, who had laid a mould for one of thirty-six feet in length and proportionably strong. Three large furnaces were built to melt the metal required for this pocket pistol, all opening into the mould, into which this mighty maſs was to be collected. In the moment of projection, they found, that the stream of metal from each of the furnaces, being differently heated, would not conjoin, which left the gun cracked in its whole length. There it still lies, a monument of folly in design, and ignorance in execution. His neighbour, Tippoo, amuses himself with these pretty play things for a monarch in a different manner. He is contented to have guns fit for use, of which, I am informed, he makes one daily, and immediately appoints people to learn the management of it. His artillery is worked almost as well as our own, chiefly by Europeans. He is, in ſhort, the only native opponent we have the least to dread from in India; although at at present he is too much engaged in quelling disorders among his own people, and knows too well the excellent state of discipline, and present strength of our armies, to think of attacking us. His motions of late, however, have been so suspicious, that the Madras government have demanded a positive explanation of his intention, in which he has, I believe, satisfied them. He is the most hateful tyrant in the

annals of history; and has been lately exercising such cruelties upon his subjects, the Nairs, as are too horrid to relate. A large body of his forces, commanded by M. Lally, has, however, been defeated lately by this oppreſsed people. The officers on the coast seem to expect, and eagerly wiſh for a war with him, to have an opportunity of revenging his infamous treatment of his prisoners last war.

Captain Kennaway, who, from his situation, has much better intelligence than any other can have, is of opinion, that he has neither inclination nor power to attack us with any prospect of succeſs. The only place of strength in the Nizam's dominions, which could impede his march for a day, is now in my sight, the famous fortreſs of Golconda. We have been given to understand, that our approaching near it would be disagreeable, which prevents my being able to give you a description of it; but it appears from this distance, (four miles,) to be more fitted for a strong hold for free booters, than a place which could resist an hour against a briſk storm of our sepoys. Their fear paints us all to their imaginations as engineers and politicians. An intimacy with us, on the part of an omrah, would probably cost him his head. We lose little, indeed, by the want of their society, as they are a bigotted ignorant set, whose only ambition is to have a large train of servants, and their zenanahs filled with women. The Nizam has above fifteen hundred in his haram.

The country is as different from Bengal, as the Carse of Gowrie from the Corriaroch. Instead of the dead flat of Bengal, we have here barren rocks, hill and dale, and clear streams running over rocky chan-

nels. The similarity to my own country, adds much to the pleasure of the romantic scenery.

"Nescio quæ natalis solum dulcedine cunctos
"Ducit."

The lightneſs and poverty of the ſoil, is, however, in a great measure made up for, by the ease with which the nature of the country allows their collecting reservoirs of water. Mounds of earth are thrown acroſs the lower parts of the higher vallies, which, filling with the rains, afford a supply for the rest of the year, and they are enabled by this means to keep up a perpetual spring. The muſsulmen are, in general, reckoned better ſoldiers than farmers; the appearance of a mosque, as a mark of the prevalence of Islamiſh, is almost a certain sign of the neglect of cultivation. The greatest part of the Hindoos have long since retired into the dominions of the Mahrattas. Some parts of the country must indeed be fruitful, as the Nizam's revenue is said to be near six crores. The greatest ſhare of this, however, is alienated by grants, and in jaghires, which he dare not resume; so that there remains only about two crores. Even this to be sure is formidable, did he know how to make a proper use of it.

The climate is delightful. The heat, except in the hot winds, which is no means an unhealthy season, much leſs than in Bengal, although so much farther southward. We have none of those sultry stiffling fogs which hang over the atmosphere of Calcutta, but dry elastic air, which braces our nerves, and preserves our spirits from flagging. The thermometer, in the cold weather, which is now set in, gets down sometimes as low as 44°.

TO ALL THE WORTHY AND HUMANE PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN,
Aſsociated or not Aſsociated,
FRIENDS TO THE PEOPLE, OR FRIENDS TO THE CONSTITUTION:

THE

P E T I T I O N

OF

Four most cruelly and unjustly aggrieved and oppreſsed Perſonages,

GRAMMAR, PLAIN SENSE, SOUND ARGUMENT, AND TRUE WIT,

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

THAT, whereas your petitioners have always been, in thought, word, and deed, friendly, no leſs to the ſocial intereſts, than to the private happineſs of mankind; have taken great pains to make men underſtand one another; and have laboured, with inconceivable patience and induſtry, although, in many inſtances, they will confeſs unſucceſsfully, to improve arts and ſciences, manners and cuſtoms, the forms of buſineſs, and the flow of familiar converſation; yet has the ungrateful world treated your petitioners with almoſt continual neglect, contempt, or merely ſeeming reſpect, the inſincerity of which was evident, by the reluctance and aukwardneſs with which it was paid.

And whereas your petitioners, amid the perſecution to which they were expoſed, had been perſuaded, that they might find protection in the iſland of Great Britain, which was deſcribed to them, as inhabited by a race of men, in all reſpects worthy of

their favour, and who had exhibited many proofs of regard for them, that bore every mark of being unfeigned; your petitioners were therefore induced to seek a more commodious, splendid, and permanent establiſhment in this island, than any that they had yet enjoyed.

And whereas your petitioners had hitherto, for the most part, avoided intermeddling with politics, and had indeed been, on different occasions, rejected or dismiſsed with disgrace, when they had, perhaps with an officious eagerneſs, offered their services towards regulating the legislature, or conducting the executive government of nations; and have been, in a peculiar, manner, exposed, on innumerable occasions, to the most humiliating indignities, within the wa[illegible] of St Stephen's chapel: yet, pleased with the favourable reception they found in this island, and with the aſsiduous court which was here paid to them, by great numbers of all ranks; they have been, in the warmth of their gratitude, sometimes induced to take part in the public affairs of the Britiſh nation, to aſsist at the deliberations of its legislature, occasionally to enlighten and direct the views of the executive ministers, and to correct and guide the *opinion* of the people.

To this last end especially, to enlighten the people, and to give a due direction to the current of popular opinion, did your petitioners direct their most strenuous endeavours. In this view did they inspire and guide such of their disciples as have been, at *different* times, particularly in the latter period of the Britiſh history, distinguiſhed in the charac-

ter of useful and popular political writers; lending such writers their aid, in every varied form, in which it could enable them to win, or to teach; and even allowing them to borrow, at times, the little arts which were practised by impostors, the enemies and opponents of your petitioners; in order that absurdity and folly might be the more effectually confounded and completely routed, when they saw their own arms thus turned against themselves.

Thus did your petitioners unanimously conspire to invest *Swift* at once with all their powers; and, at the same time, to authorise him even to use the spoils of which he plundered their adversaries. With equal kindness did they favour the exertions of *Addison*. They did not, indeed, all agree in blessing the labours of *Burnet*; but he was an high favourite with some of them, and made no unhappy use of their favours. They could not cure *Bolingbroke* of his propensity to declamation; but they, upon proper occasions, combined to correct the disadvantages of that declamation, by bestowing an abundant portion of all their best gifts. It was under our influence, and by our aid, that *Chesterfield* taught *Common Sense* to politicians, as well as shone in the *World*. To the assiduity with which he cultivated our good graces, was *Campbell* indebted for that multifarious, yet not inaccurate knowledge; and for that singular perspicuity of expression with which he explained the political interests and happiness of our favourite land. We gave to *Johnson* his energy of thought, and moulded the rotundity of his periods. Ours are the clear con-

ception, the cogent reasoning, the vehement eloquence, the ardent expreſsion of *Junius*; although we do not so readily ascribe to ourselves the gorgeous pages, and the declamatory flouriſhes of *Burke*.

And whereas your petitioners had, in the progreſs of the present century, observed a growing inclination in the good people of North Britain to cultivate their favour, they were therefore induced to encourage, by a kind acceptance, the awkward services of their new votaries; and to labour, with singular care and pains, to form them to excellence in the several arts, over which your petitioners respectively preside. By us was *Hume* raised to eminence. By our kindneſs have *Blair*, and *Robertson*, and *Smith*, gained the admiration of Europe, and reflected a lustre on their native land, which, as it arose, so may probably fade away with them.

And whereas your petitioners, flattered by the circumstances above enumerated, confiding in the vigour and aſsiduity of their exertions, and warmed with that enthusiasm which activity and succeſs usually kindle up in generous minds,—had begun to look fondly forward towards the future extension of their influence and the increase of their honours; and had pleased themselves with the hope of establiſhing throughout this island, an empire, of which the stability and splendour might render it the glory of all human things; it is therefore with extreme mortification and disappointment, that your petitioners have found their hopes frustrated, their endeavours defeated, and all their fair

prospects overcast by a train of unhappy events, which they could neither foresee, nor provide against. The *Art of Sinking in Poetry* having been long practised in this country, with wonderful success, by a race of wretched beings, enemies to your petitioners; the prosperity of this art has, by degrees, brought into repute the sister *Art of Sinking in Prose*. This latter art is, in spite of every effort of your petitioners, now practised with a general eagerness, which bids fair to raise it to the highest exaltation. Providence seems to have distributed among men, with much liberality, the genius for excellence in it; indeed the art is of itself easy; consisting *chiefly* in an insolent opposition to your petitioners, and an outrageous abuse of them. It is easy to muster up crowds of quaint thoughts; to count over strings of antithetical periods; and to re-echo those common place allusions, similies, and metaphors, which were, indeed, at first produced by inventive wit, but have been bandied about from fool to fool, and from dunce to dunce, till they have been at length debased and disgraced, by the meanness of the creatures who have presumed to steal the use of them. Such allusions, similies, and metaphors, have, in truth, become so common, and are so continually repeated, that they cannot well fail to occur mechanically even to the feeblest, emptiest minds; just as mechanic impulse made the idiot continue to count the hours, after the clock had ceased to strike them.

To add to the perplexity and distress in which your petitioners have thus been involved, some late circumstances in the political state of this country,

have concurred to give their enemies extraordinary advantages over them. The practitioners in the *Art of Sinking in Prose*, having, in the ardour and aſsiduity with which they cultivated their art, discovered, that it was peculiarly adapted for the propagation of falsehood, irreligion, and atheism; and hoping to crown both their art and themselves with immortal honour, if *they* ſhould, by *it*, accompliſh the overthrow of social order, and the abolition of religious establiſhments; in this hope, and with these views, they, in one united effort, exerted all their energy, and all their ſkill, to effectuate their purposes. Their succeſs was wonderfully beyond what we could have conceived to be poſsible, had not our eyes beheld it. Amazed and dismayed as we were, we stood earnestly forward to oppose them. The vi ous indignation, and the religious horror of t ople of Great Britain, seconded our endeav . Desperate was the conflict; but, through the powerful aid of our allies, the victory at last was ours. No sooner, however, was it gained, than, with unexampled perfidy and art, our vanquiſhed foes detached a great part of their forces, with orders to betray, by pretending to join us. Under various pretences, they have now insinuated themselves in such multitudes among us, and our few friends, that we are no longer more than an handful in the midst of them. Thus beset, and betrayed, we are reduced to a state of hopeleſs humiliation and misery. Our enemies arrogate to themselves the honours which we have earned. They have seduced from us every heart;

they have occcupied every ear; not a soul but they have persuaded to learn a faſhionable ſmattering of their art; they exult, that although we fought for ourſelves, and for the good people of Great Britain, we have conquered only for them. Our pretended allies have conſpired to diſmiſs us from the field; or to degrade us to the meanneſt ſubaltern ſituations.

We know not well whither to flee! or from whom to ſeek protection and aid! We ſhould be ſure of redreſs, if we could find our way into the College of *Juſtice*. But, alas! the ſtripling barriſters, with a crowd of agents and clerks, have combined, and would compel the macers to exclude us even from the *Outer Houſe*. The practitioners in the art of medicine, are well known to have long regarded us with the ſame abhorence as *pure air*, or *clean ſtreets*. Our reſpect for religion forbids us to declare how much we have ſuffered from the unprovoked enmity of ſome of the * * *. And as to the legiſlative aſſembly of the ſtate, we have been long ſo cruelly maltreated by them, that we can expect no ſupport from that quarter. We are cut off from every reſource! we have become the objects of general hoſtility!

In theſe circumſtances, and dejected by this accumulated oppreſſion and diſtreſs, your petitioners would humbly intreat *all the worthy inhabitants of Great Britain*, to think of their merits, and pity their *ſufferings*. If your petitioners might haply prevail with you to deſiſt, for their ſakes, from that political contention of which they have been the only victims; their enemies might poſſibly ſink into

their original unimportance. If you would, every one, mind only his own business, and no longer give ear to the wranglings of our enemies, they would be soon forced to hide their heads. Every new set of resolutions, and associations for political purposes, under whatever name it be known; every political pamphlet, or letter, or paragraph in the newspapers, is a new stroke, desperately aimed, either at our heads, or at our hearts.

May it therefore please you, to take under your serious consideration, the case of your petitioners; and, in commiseration of their distress, to remove their enemies from your counsels; and to cease from those unhappy and needless contentions of which they have taken advantage.

And your petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

ANECDOTE.

A STRONG healthy girl having accused an old physician with having deforced her, and demanded that he should either be ordered to espouse her, or pay her a considerable sum of money. "How, (said the judge,) could such a strong healthy wench as you are, allow yourself to be overcome by him? Had you not strength to defend yourself?"—'O! Sir, (said she,) I am very strong when I quarrel, but I am not so at all *when I laugh*.'

LITERARY OLLA. No. IV.

For the Bee.

Amicitia post mortem durans.

In the close of a serene and beautiful winter evening, I was musing near the root of an old decayed fantastic chesnut, more beautiful in its ruins than ever was feigned by the pencil of Rosa.

It was in the placid garden of Corycius.

Around its noble gigantic trunk, now dead and sapleſs, and all around its branches, the ivy that had clung to it while living, continued to adhere, and to live, and to flouriſh.

"Beautiful, magnificent, and tender image (said I,) of that friendſhip which survives the grave!

"Oh! excellent Eugenius! thou art now the chesnut, and I am thy slender ivy that measures thy former greatneſs, and mantles o'er thy memory!"

And now the sun, which had but lately descended behind a lofty mountain, tinged the leafleſs trees with a bloody hue, and struck me with awe and with astoniſhment *.

Wonderful nature! thou exhibitest to thy lovers what none but *they* are destined to behold and to enjoy! And this scenery which I now see, no painter durst commit to canvas with impunity!

* This is a phenomenon very rarely to be observed, and which in the course of thirty years constant attention to all the colouring of landscape, and the atmosphere, I never observed but once.

It happens, when, after a mirky thaw, a frost immediately succeeds on the setting of the sun, whereby the red rays are separated, and concentrated upon the tangent of the prospect.

The ſhades of night now preſsed upon the landscape. The young moon appeared in sober majesty, and with the sweet glittering star of evening, conspired to adorn and animate the wintry heaven.

And now, ever and anon, I saw the moon flaſhing through the dark foliage of the solitary yew tree, as it yielded to a briskning gale.

" Oft in the lone churchyard at night I've seen,
By glimpse of moonſhine cheq'ring thro' the trees,
The school boy with his satchel in his hand,
Whistling aloud to bear his courage up;
And lightly tripping o'er the long flat stones,
With nettles ſkirted, and with moſs o'ergrown,
That tell in homely phrase who lie below;
Sudden he starts and hears, or thinks he hears,
The sound of something purring at his heels.
Full fast he flies, and dares not look behind him,
Till, out of breath, he overtakes his fellows;
Who gather round, and wonder at the tale
Of horrid apparition, tall and ghastly,
That walks at dead of night, or takes his stand
O'er some new open'd grave; and, strange to tell!
Evaniſhes at crowing of the cock *.

See yonder hallow'd fane! the pious work
Of names once fam'd, now dubious or forgot;
And buried, midst the wrecks of things that were,
There lie interr'd the more illustrious dead.

The wind is up.—Hark how it howls! methinks
Till now I never heard a sound so dreary!
Doors creak, and windows clap, and night's foul bird,
Rock'd in the tow'r, screams loud! the gloomy aisles,
Black plaister'd, and hung round with ſhreds of scutcheons,
And tatter'd coats of arms, send back the sound,
Laden with heavier airs from the low vaults,
The mansions of the dead.——
Again the screech owl ſhrieks! ungracious sound!
I'll hear no more.—It makes my blood run chill.

* From the Grave, a beautiful poem, by Robert Blair, an episcopal minister of Scotland, too little known and celebrated; though, in my opinion, in this very poem alone, far superior to the celebrated Gray.

It was Pinkerton who had the merit of first calling the attention of the public to this authentic poet.

O friendſhip! thou art ſtronger than the grave! To thee, with the divine aid of Chriſtian philoſophy, and the leſſons of Eugenius, I owe that my ſoul is ſuperior to the terrors of night, the diſorders of the elements, and the gloom of ſuperſtition.——I will go fetch me a torch, and viſit his monument.

I returned to our dwelling place, and I brought with me a torch.—I ſped my way ſlowly to the place of his interment. —I deſcended by ſeven ſteps into the awful manſion of the dead.—The reflected light, from his urn of Parian marble, gleamed upon me as I approached.

I laid me down upon his grave ſtone, and I read its inſcription:

"THOUGH HE BE DEAD HE YET SPEAKETH."

O virtue! thou haſt not decieved me!
Thou, thou only, art the never failing friend of man.

FARTHER ACCOUNTS OF BENJAMIN BANNEKER, A FREE NEGRO.

A copy of Banneker's almanack, in the author's hand writing, has been ſent to an acquaintance of Meſſrs Goddard and Angell in London. A letter is ſubjoined to it, from a reſpectable citizen in Philadelphia, of which the following is a copy *.

"THESE ſheets of aſtronomical calculations of Benjamin Banneker, in his own hand writing, were ſent to me from Baltimore, with a view to their being printed here, which was prevented by a printer in Baltimore, who had perſuaded the author to furniſh him with a copy. On receipt of them, I ſubmitted them to the inſpection of

* These attestations of the juſtneſs of the calculations of the negro aſtronomer, were accidentally omitted in our laſt.

David Rittenhouse of this city, who returned them to me with a note, of which the following is an abstract.

" Dear Sir,

" I think the papers I herewith return to you a very extraordinary performance, considering the author. Though I had leisure to make but few comparisons, I have no doubt that the calculations are sufficiently accurate for the purposes of a common almanack. Every instance of genius amongst the negroes, is worthy of attention, because their oppressors seem to lay great stress on their supposed inferior mental abilities. I am, dear Sir, your sincere friend, D. Rittenhouse.

Addressed to Mr Pemberton,
August 6. 1791.

" I put them also in the hands of William Warring, master of our mathematical school, who has published an almanack several years successively in this city; and on comparing them with his own calculations for the succeeding year, informed me that he had found no occasion to make any alterations. (Signed,) James Pemberton."

Philadelphia, 18*th day of the*
10*th month*, 1791.

Our sable astronomer, in a letter to T. Jefferson, esq. secretary to the United States, dated August 19. 1791, speaks thus of his almanack. " This calculation is the production of my arduous study, in this my advanced stage of life; for having long had unbounded desires to become acquainted with the secrets of nature, I have had, to gratify my curiosity herein, through my own assiduous application to astronomical study, in which I need not re-

count to you the many difficulties and disadvantages which I have had to encounter."

In the same letter he prefers the claim of the degraded African race to human nature and human faculties, in terms equally philosophical and forcible. "I apprehend, (says he,) you will embrace every opportunity to eradicate that train of absurd and false ideas and opinions, which too generally prevails with respect to us; and that your sentiments are concurrent with mine, which are, That one universal Father hath given being to us all; and that he hath not only made us all of one flesh; but that he hath also, without partiality, afforded us all the same sensations, and endowed us all with the same faculties; and that, however variable we may be in society or religion, however diversified in situation or colour, we are all of the same family, and stand in the same relation to Him."

As Mr Jefferson's very liberal answer is but short, we here insert it.

"Sir, *Philadelphia, August* 30. 1791.

"I thank you sincerely for your letter of the 19th instant, and for the almanack it contained. Nobody wishes more than I do, to see such proofs as you exhibit, that nature has given to our black brethern, talents equal to those of the other colours of men; and that the appearance of the want of them, is owing merely to the degraded condition of their existence, both in Africa and America. I can add with truth, that no body wishes more ardently, to see a good system commenced, for raising the condition, both of their body and mind, to what it ought to be, as far as the imbecillity of their present state, and other circumstances, which cannot be neglected, will admit.

"I have taken the liberty of sending your almanack to M. de Condorcet, secretary of the Academy of Sciences

at Paris, and member of the Philanthropic Society, because I considered it as a document to which your whole colour had a right, for their justification against the doubts which have been entertained of them. I am, with great esteem, Sir, your most obedient humble servant, (Signed,)

THOMAS JEFFERSON *."

AN INTENDED ROBBERY FRUSTRATED.

ON the paſsage from Switzerland into Italy, by mount St Bernard, near the top of the mountain stands a convent of canons, of the order of St Augustine. Into this convent the canons receive indifferently all travellers; lodge and nouriſh, in the best way they can, all who present themselves, without distinction of religion, age, or sex, as long as is neceſsary for enabling them to pursue their journey. Persons of a decent appearance eat at the table of the religious, which is supported by the alms they collect for twenty or thirty leagues around.

At sunset every evening, domestics, accompanied with large and strong dogs, are dispersed around upon the mountain, to discover travellers who may be benighted and ignorant of the way, and give them aſsistance; having with them restoratives and refreſhments to give them, if neceſsary, before they can reach the convent.

This convent of Great St Bernard, is situated at the height of 2241 toises above the level of the Mediterranean sea; and is so difficult of acceſs, that it requires no leſs than thirty horses to bring wood for firing to the

* The extract from Benjamin's letter, and Mr Jefferson's answer, are taken from copies printed in Philadelphia by D. Lawrence, 1790.

convent. These horses are sustained chiefly by bread, which they find cheaper than hay, on account of the great difficulty of transporting it thither.

An institution so benevolent, and so neceſsary for the community, one would imagine, would protect it from the rapacity of even robbers, who might themselves frequently have occasion to profit by the succours it afforded them; but to some persons no considerations can avail. In the year 1787, about thirty banditti laid a plan to rob their monastery, where they hoped to obtain a rich booty. To effect this purpose, they divided themselves into small parties, and came to the convent at different times. They were received, as usual, with kindneſs, and treated with hospitality; but regardleſs of this, they seized the earliest opportunity of ordering the superior of the convent to deliver to them their money. The superior, with great mildneſs, told them this was a very unhandsome return for the hospitality they had experienced; but if they insisted upon it, they had only to follow him, and he would take them to the strong chest where the money was kept, with the keys of which he presented them. They followed him with alacrity. He went straight to the door of the kennel where the dogs were kept, which he opened, and, upon a proper signal, the whole of the dogs flew upon the robbers; killed some, tore others in a desperate manner, and put the rest to flight. Thus was the convent preserved by the cool sagacity of the superior of that order.

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF CAMBUS KENNETH.

The abbey of Cambus Kenneth, once the richest in the kingdom, has now little left by the destructive hand of

time, to mark out its original grandeur. The only remains of this noble building is a stair case leading to the bells, on which time has made no great impreſſion. The abbey is built in a garden, ſituated in a beautiful peninsula, formed by the river Forth, about half a mile north east from Stirling, to which it has formerly been connected by a bridge built a little above the ſhore.

Its ruins, faint as they are at this day, have originally covered a great extent of ground; and appear to have been built somewhat in the form of a croſs. Near the abbey to the east, and at a small distance from the river, lies the principal burying ground, of considerable extent; at the extremity of which king James III. is said to have been buried. An arch gate of beautiful workmanſhip, leading to the burying ground, is still entire. The gardens of the abbey extend on all sides of it, in which there are some trees of very great age;—they now belong to Cowan's hospital in Stirling, and are let out to the inhabitants of the peninsula, by the magistrates of Stirling, managers of the hospital's funds, at a good rent, and form a most delightful walk to the people of Stirling, especially in the fruit season.

To a thinking mind, it must afford a melancholy reflection, that the nicest structure of art cannot escape the devastation of time. That this building, the grandest of the age, the seat of kings, the aſsylum of learned men, the muse of beauty, and abode of religion, is now in ruins, the traces of which can scarcely be discerned, and all the remains of its ancient dignity converted into a pigeon cot.

G. S.

Done's Court, Stirling,
Jan. 11. 1792.

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AVERAGES FOR TH

This TABLE contains the Rates of Stocks and Exchanges, and the Price
insert for preservation at the End of each Year. The first as the onl
certain indication of the Value of Accumulated Property; and the la
the proportion of the Value of Money to that of other Commodities.

RATES OF EXCHANGE. *PRI*

MONTHS	1 Amsterdam	2 Hamburg	3 * Paris	4 Madrid	5 Lisbon	6 Leghorn	7 Dublin	Bank Stock	3 *per cent.* consols
January	37	34.5	17⅞	36⅛	5, 8¼	49⅜	8¼	202½	90½
February	36,6	34,1	16⅛	37	5 8⅜	50⅛	8¼	203½	94¼
March	36,5	34.2	15⅜	37⅜	5, 9⅛	51	8⅜	217⅛	96⅛
April	36 1	34,1	17¼	37⅛	5, 9⅛	51	8¼	210⅛	94¼
May	36,1	34,4	16⅜	37¼	5 9⅛	50⅞	8⅛	201⅝	90¼
June	36,3	34 4	18	37¼	5 11⅛	50¼	8⅞	204⅛	92⅛
July	36,2	34.1	17⅞	37⅛	6, 0⅞	50⅛	9	205⅛	91⅛
August	36,7	34.0	17½	37⅛	6, 0¼	50⅛	8¾	205⅛	91¼
Sep ember	37.2	33.11	18⅞	37⅛	6, 2⅛	50	8¾	205⅛	90⅛
October	37,3	34,0	18⅜	36½	6, 2¼	49⅜	8¼	202⅛	90⅛
November	37,3	34,0	19⅛	36⅛	6, 2	49⅞	8⅛	194⅛	86⅞
December	38,1	34,10	18⅜	36⅛	6, 0	48¼	8⅛	176½	77⅝

EXPLANATION OF THE EXCHANGES.

REAL V
Standa

In column 1. Shillings and pence Flemish for L. 1 sterling — *Pound F*
——— 2. Shillings and pence Flemish for L. 1 sterling — *Pound F*
——— 3. Pence sterling for one Ecu of three livres — *Ecu* - -
——— 4. Pence sterling for one Pezza of eight rials plate — *Pezza* -
——— 5. Shillings and pence sterling for one milree — *Milree* -
——— 6. Pence sterling for one Pezza of 115 *Soldi fuori di Banco* — *Pezza* -
——— 7. *Per cents* British money more than Irish — *Pound Ir*

* The cause of the Paris exchange being apparently so much below *Par* is the great dis
ssignats; in which substitute for money, mercantile transactions have been negociated since

AVERAGES FOR THE YEAR 1792.

Exchanges, and the Prices of Grain at Edinburgh, for the Year 1792, which we propose to Year. The first as the only means of ascertaining the Balance of Trade; the second as the most lated Property; and the last as an object of Universal Concern to the Country, in ascertaining at of other Commodities.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

6 Leg-horn	7 Dublin	Bank Stock	3 *per cent.* consols	4 *per cent.* 1777	5 *per cent.* 1784	India Stock
49⅜	8¼	202½	90½	103	113	187
50⅛	8¼	203½	94¼	104⅛	119⅛	203½
51	8¼	217⅛	96⅛	104⅞	119⅞	214⅛
51	8¼	210⅛	94¼	101¼	119	209⅛
50⅞	8¼	201⅝	90¼	99¼	118¼	208½
50⅛	8⅞	204⅛	92⅛	100¼	119⅛	208½
50⅛	9	205⅛	91⅞	101⅞	117⅞	207⅛
50⅛	8¾	205⅛	91¼	102	117½	204½
50	8¼	205⅛	90⅛	102⅛	117½	205½
49⅜	8¼	202⅛	90⅛	102	117⅛	210⅛
49⅛	8⅛	194⅛	86⅛	98¼	116⅞	205½
48¼	8⅛	176½	77⅛	91¼	108⅞	182⅛

PRICES OF GRAIN AT EDINBURGH.

Good Wheat *per* Edin. boll *	Mealing oats *per* Edin. boll †	Good malting barley †	Flour *per* sack of 249 lb. averdupoise	Oat meal in retail *per* peck of 8 lb Amsterdam wt.
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
22 0	13 6	18 3	36 0	1 0
21 6	13 6	19 3	36 0	1 0
21 0	13 0	18 6	34 6	1 0
21 0	13 0	20 0	34 0	1 0¼
21 0	12 3	20 0	33 0	0 11
20 6	13 0	19 0	32 6	0 11¾
20 6	13 9	19 6	32 0	1 0
20 6	13 9	20 0	32 6	1 0
21 6	14 0	20 6	34 0	1 0
23 0	14 0	20 6	37 0	1 0¼
24 0	15 0	21 0	39 0	1 0¼
24 0	16 0	21 0	39 0	1 1

REAL VALUE *according to the Standard of British coinage.*

	s.	d.
Pound Flemish	10	9
Pound Flemish	11	9
Ecu	2	4
Penna	3	4
Milree	5	3
Penna	4	0
Pound Irish	18	6

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i di Banco

nuch below *Par* is the great discount in government ctions have been negociated since the Revolution.

* One boll of wheat is equal to 4,087 Winchester bushels, and we here suppose the boll to weigh about 238 lb English.

† One boll of oats and barley is equal to 5,963 Winchester bushels, and we suppose the oats, at the above prices, will weigh about 236 lb English. It is customary at Leith to give a discount on oats of 4 bolls *per* 104.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23 1793.

France.

THE affairs of France still continue to occupy the principal attention of all Europe, and unfortunately must continue to do so for some time yet to come.

Trial of the king.

The trial of the king, as mentioned in our former chronicle, came on upon the 26th of December, before the National Convention in Paris.

Defence of the king.

" Always faithful to national principles," exclaims M. Manuel, at the opening of the sitting, " always faithful to the duties of a true national representative, I dare at all times denounce infractions of the law. A decree has ordained that the tribunes"——The orator had scarce pronounced this word, when the most disgraceful clamour broke forth from all parts of the tribunes, composed of hissings, hootings, and inarticulate shouts; it ceased but to renew with redoubled force, and M. Manuel was thus compelled to sit down.

The president announced the arrival of Louis XVI. and his counsel—it was ten o'clock precisely.—He observed to the deputies how much it became them to preserve a decent and dignified deportment on an occasion like the present—for myself, said he, I am under the direction of the assembly.—A member proposed that the nominal appeal should be made to the members present. General Berruyer and two aids de camp, appeared at the bar.—While waiting for the counsel, the Convention passed a decree upon the accountability of M. Randon de la Tour, formerly treasurer of the king's household.

This decree, it was said, shall restore to the national treasury a sum of twelve thousand livres. It was decreed likewise, upon a proposition of a member of the committee of twelve, that the keys found at the Garde Meuble, the apartments of M. Thierry, should be shewn to Louis: one of these keys not only opening the famous iron door, but also three other close closets of the king's cabinet.

Louis XVI now entered the bar of the Convention. He was dressed precisely as when he appeared before—his air was then dignified and serene—he was preceded by generals Santerre and Berruyer, with several municipal officers, and accompanied by his three counsel.

" Louis," said the president, " the Convention has decreed that you ſhall be finally heard this day upon your defence —— you may be seated." ' My counſel,' ſaid the king, ' are here to ſpeak for me.'—He ſat down, and M. Deseze ſtood forward to ſpeak.

M. Deseze then stood forward, and made a most able defence of the king; which we regret our scanty limits prevent our inserting. In this defence, he with great dignity insisted on the incompetency of the tribunal before which Louis now appeared to try him. Then paſsing to the inviolability of the king's person, secured by the constitution, he proceeded to ſhow, that in no one instance had the king exceeded the powers vested in him by the constitution; but had uniformly exercised them to the utmost of his power for the welfare of the state, and the preservation of the national tranquillity. He then answered the particular charges that had been adduced individually; ſhewing, as he went along, that the blame, if any, could in no case attach upon the king, but other responsible persons; in some instances denying the charges as being absolutely false; and in others ſhewed, that the king, where blamed, for having adopted a conduct inimical to the state, had acted in a manner directly the reverse of what had been laid to his charge.

M. Destze concluded, by imploring them for the accused. Immediately afterwards, the king rose, and with a firm tone of voice, pointed with sensibility of manner, spoke thus:

" Citizens, the means of my defence have been already declared to you—I am not going to renew them——But in speaking to you, perhaps for the last time, I declare to you, that my conscience does not accuse me of any thing that has been exhibited against me; and that my advocate has said nothing but the truth.——I never dreaded a public examination of my conduct,——but my heart is torn to find the blood of the people imputed to me, and particularly that the unhappineſs of the 10th of August, ſhould be laid to my charge——I confeſs that the proofs of my constant love for the people might be multiplied,——and I think that my uniform conduct in this respect is sufficient to prove, that I never was afraid to expose my own person to spare them, and to do away, by every thing in my power, any imputation of this kind."

The keys found at the Garde Meuble, in the apartments of M. Thierry, were then presented to the king, who was aſked if he knew them?——" I sent keys to Thierry," replied he, " but I am not certain whether they are those or not; I know that my house was rifled, and all my furniture destroyed,

to that I had no more occasion for keys——I cannot recollect these keys after such a lapse of time."

Louis XVI. then retired from the bar, with the same calm firmneſs that attended him during the course of his appearance there. It was only remarked, that on his going out, his visage seemed flushed with a degree of indignation, which was succeeded by several tears.

After this succeeded a most tumultuous debate, which will be a disgrace to the history of civil society, as long as it ſhall be preserved upon record. Nothing like an answer to any part of the defence was attempted; but a general cry from the gallery was heard, that the guilt of Louis was universally known; and therefore demanding that he ſhould be immediately condemned to death. Some members still attempted to speak in his favour; the persons in the gallery descended, and menaced, with words and threatening, the president, who in vain attempted to preserve some kind of order; and at last they proceeded even to blows. The sitting was at last tumultuously closed, without being able to come to any determination.

Since then the discuſsion of this question has been several times renewed. At the first, with great vehemence and tumult; many persons desiring to be heard in favour of the king, and others as violently opposing it. It was at last decreed, that the members who wiſhed to speak ſhould inrol their names, and speak in their turn, according to the order of inrollment. But after this had been attempted to be carried into practice, it was found that the delays would thus be so great, that it was decreed, that instead of speaking, each member might cause his own speech to be printed where he inclined, and distributed among the members of the Convention.

From the specimens that have appeared of the speeches, there seems to be three principal opinions afloat in that aſsembly. 1*st*, Those who contend that the king ſhould be instantly condemned by the Convention. 2*d*, Those who maintain that the Convention have no right to paſs sentence at all in any ſhape. 3*d*, Those who contend that the Convention may paſs sentence, but refer it to the departments for their final approbation or rejection. And it is however, very observable, that of late this subject has been touched with much more gentleneſs than before. There are indeed evident symptoms, that when the order of the day requires them to take it up, a great majority of the aſsembly proceed to it with reluctance.

Declaration of the court of Madrid.

On the 28th December two declarations from the court of Madtid, were presented to the National Convention. By the first, the court of Spain agreed to maintain a neutrality with France; and by the second, Spain intimated that the troops were to be removed from the frontiers of France, on the French making a reciprocal order on their part.

These declarations were accompanied with a letter from the chevalier Ocariz, the Spaniſh charge des affaires in France, of which the following is an extract:

Application to the National Convention on the Part of Spain, in favour of Louis XVI.

" The declaration of neutrality demanded by the minster of France, might have been considered as ſuperfluous; but I am going to give a new character of authenticity to those ſentiments of candour, which have always diſtinguiſhed the Spaniſh nation. It will be from the manner in which the French nation ſhall behave towards Louis and his family, that it will experience what reliance may be placed in the promiſes of Spain. This grand trial cannot be considered as foreign to the king of Spain; and his majeſty cannot be accuſed of wiſhing to intermeddle in the internal affairs of the ſtate, when he makes his voice to be heard in favour of a relation, a friend, and an unhappy prince."

Here the Charge des affaires of the court of Spain makes ſome general reflections on the ſituation of Louis XVI. tried by men, ſeveral of whom are his enemies, and whoſe opinions are tinctured with partiality, and accuſed of crimes, which, were they proved, would not anull royal inviolability.

" It is impoſſible (continues he) that the whole world ſhould not behold with horror, the violences committed againſt a prince, oppreſſed by the miſeries of a long and rigorous captivity, and by the inſults of ſome men, who think to aggrandize themſelves by treading under foot greatneſs now fallen. A revolution can never excuſe men for neglecting to ſhew that reſpect which is ever due to misfortunes. Though the greater part of the French have not yet ſpoken out, the majority of them ſeem favourable to Louis; and if his enemies ſhall be able to exerciſe againſt him the laſt violence, the French government will alone be accountable. It will then be evident that foreign nations cannot depend upon the promiſes of the French nation, whereas a magnanimous conduct towards the royal priſoner, who might be ſuffered to chuſe an aſylum for

himself and family, would be an evident testimony of the generosity of the French. What I now expreſs to you as the wiſh of the king—is the wiſh of the Spaniſh nation; and under theſe views his majesty has ordered me to present to the Convention his most ardent interceſsions."

A member moved, that all these pieces might be referred to the Diplomatic Committee, and that a report might be given in on them, after the trial Louis XVI. After some debate the Convention proceeded to the order of the day.

The French armies have been in a great measure inactive since our last, and circumstances seem to announce that their impetuous career is at its end. At Bruſsels diſsentions already prevail between the French and their new allies. In Piedmont there are also diſsentions and distrust. No accounts have transpired from Antwerp of any consequence; but in Mentz, general Custine appears to be in a situation extremely precarious. A body of Pruſsian troops having appeared in that neighbourhood, who threatened to beſiege that place, he publiſhed an addreſs to the citizens of Mentz, upon the 16th Dec. exhorting them to cooperate heartily with him in preserving their liberties, and opposing every attempt of the enemy upon that place; but so far was this addreſs from producing the desired effect, that he found it neceſsary to iſsue another order on the 19th, requiring all the inhabitants to deliver up their arms to him, and declaring that the first person who ſhould but hint at surrendering the city ſhould be hanged up.

But the circumstance that will operate in the most powerful manner in retarding the progreſs of the French arms, is a decree paſsed in the National Convention on the 11th Jan. when they were informed by a letter from Custine, that in consequence of the deplorable state to which his troops were reduced from the want of cloathing, or money to supply them with neceſsaries, he had been under the neceſsity of purchasing provisions and neceſsaries, for his army, for which he had given written acknowledgements. On which occasion Cambon moved, and the Convention decreed, that these ſhould be paid in ASSIGNATS. This may be considered as the *Coup de grace* to the progreſs of the French arms in Germany.

By the *report* of Cambon, on Jan. 10. from the Committee of Finance, it appears that during the last month the ordinary expences exceeded the receipt, by twenty millions of livres, which, added to one hundred and fifty-six millions of extraordinary expences, made the sum neceſsary to be furniſhed by the treasury a hundred and seventy-six millions.

DOMESTIC.

NEVER did greater unanimity prevail in parliament, nor in the nation at large, than at present. All the newspapers are filled with advertisments from every corner of the country, and all descriptions of men, expreſsive of the warmest attachment to the king, and approbation of the constitution of this country, consisting of king, lords, and commons; and tendering their support to the civil magistrate, in suppreſsing seditious publications of every kind. The bills, therefore, that have been brought in to parliament for subjecting aliens to certain regulations, unusual in this country, for preventing the circulation of French aſsignats, and for prohibiting the exportation of corn and military stores to France, have been paſsed almost without opposition; and have been received by the nation at large, with a cordial approbation. The armaments that have been ordered, have also been deemed highly expedient by all ranks of men in the present state of affairs; though it is the general wiſh, and hope of many, that war may still be avoided. The effect of this unanimity in Britain is very obvious on the French Convention, which has of late aſsumed a tone with regard to England, a good deal different from that which there prevailed, before the meeting of parliament. The following state paper, though long, is of too much importance at present, to be omitted.

Copy of a note sent by Citizen Chauvelin to lord Grenville, December 27. 1792.

" The undersigned minister plenipotentiary of France, has the honour to communicate to lord Grenville, the instructions which he has received from the executive council of the French republic, with orders to lay before his Britannic majesty's secretary of state for the department of foreign affairs, in case that he ſhould think that he could not speedily enough obtain an interview with the minister. The French government, by continuing, since the recal of lord Gower from Paris, to leave at London a minister plenipotentiary, thought they gave to his Britannic majesty an unequivocal proof of the desire they had to remain in good intelligence with the Britiſh court, and to see all those clouds diſsipated, to which events, neceſsary and inſeparable from the internal regimen of France, seemed then to have given birth. The intentions of the executive council of France towards England have never ceased to be the same, but they cannot see with indifference the public conduct which the Britiſh miniſtry observe at present towards France. It is much to be regretted, that they have perceived in this conduct an indisposition

which they still force themselves not to believe. They think it a duty, however, which they owe to the French nation, not to leave it much longer in that state of uncertainty in which it has been thrown by several measures lately adopted by the British government,---an uncertainty in which the English nation must share, and which must be equally unworthy of both.

The executive council of the French republic have consequently authorised the minister of France at London, to demand with openness of the ministers of his Britannic majesty, whether France ought to consider England as a neutral or hostile power; and have particularly charged him to obtain on this point a definitive answer. But in demanding from the ministers of his Britannic majesty an open and candid explanation of their intentions towards France, the Executive Council do not wish that the smallest doubt should exist respecting the dispositions of France towards England, and of its desire to remain at peace with it. They even wish to answer previously to all those reproaches which may be thrown out against France, in order to justify England. Reflecting on the reasons which might determine his Britannic majesty to break with the French republic, the Executive Council can see them only in a false interpretation, given perhaps to the decree of the National Convention of November 19. If the British ministry are really alarmed by that decree, it can only be for want of comprehending the true meaning of it. The National Convention never intended that the French republic should favour insurrections, and espouse the cause of a few seditious persons; or in a word, that it should endeavour to excite disturbances in any neutral or friendly country whatever; such an idea would be rejected by the French nation. It cannot without injustice be imputed to the National Convention. This decree then is applicable only to those people, who, after having conquered their liberty, may request the fraternity and assistance of the French republic, by a solemn and unequivocal expression of the general will. France not only ought, and wishes, to respect the independence of England, but also that of its allies, with whom it is not at war. The undersigned, therefore, has been charged to declare formally, that France will not attack Holland, whilst that power confines itself, on its part, within the bounds of strict neutrality. The British government being thus assured respecting these two points, no pretence for the least difficulty can remain, but on the question of opening the Scheldt---a question irrevocably decided by reason and justice, of little importance in itself, and on which the opinion of England, and perhaps even of Holland, are too well known to render it difficult to make it seriously the sole cause of war.

Should the British ministry, however, embrace this last motive to induce them to declare war against France, would it not then be probable that their private intention was to bring about a rupture at any rate; and to take advantage at present of the most futile of all pretences, to colour an unjust aggression, long ago meditated? In this fatal supposition, which the executive council rejects, the undersigned would be authorised to support with energy, the dignity of the French people, and to declare with firmness, that a free and powerful nation will accept war, and repel with indignation an aggression so manifestly unjust, and so unprovoked on their part. When all these explanations, necessary to demonstrate the purity of the intentions of France, and when all peaceful and conciliatory measures shall have been exhausted by the French nation, it is evident that the whole weight, and all the whole responsibility of the war, will sooner or latter fall upon those who have provoked it. Such a war would really be the war only of the British ministry, against the French republic; and should this truth appear for a moment doubtful, it would not perhaps be impossible for France to render it soon evident to a nation, which in giving its confidence, never renounced the exercise of reason, and its respect for justice and truth.

"Such are the instructions which the undersigned has received orders to communicate officially to Lord Grenville, inviting him, as well as all the council of his Britannic majesty, to weigh, with the most serious attention, the deliberations and demands which they contain. It is evident that the French nation desires to preserve peace with England. It proves this, by endeavouring with candour and openness to remove every suspicion which so many passions and various prejudices are continually labouring to excite against it; but the more it shall have done to convince all Europe of the purity of its views, and the rectitude of its intentions, the greater right it will have to a claim of not being longer misunderstood. The undersigned has orders to demand a written answer to the present note; he hopes that the ministers of his Britannic majesty will be induced, by the explanations which it contains, to adopt ideas favourable to a good understanding between the two nations; and will have no occasion, in order to return to them, to consider the terrible responsibility of a declaration of a war, which would incontestibly be their work; the consequences of which could be only fatal to both countries, and to all mankind; and in which a generous and free people could not long consent to betray their own interests, by serving to assist and support a tyrannical coalition."

Lord Grenville's answer deferred till our next.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30. 1793.

STATE PAPER.

Answer of the right honurable lord Grenville to M. Chauvelin's note, given in our last.

Whitehall, Dec. 13. 1792.

"I HAVE received, Sir, from you a note, in which, stiling yourself minister plenipotentiary of France, you communicate to me, as the king's secretary of state, the instructions which you state to have yourself received from the executive council of the French republic. You are not ignorant, that since the unhappy events of the tenth of August, the king has thought proper to suspend all official communication with France. You are yourself no otherwise accredited to the king, than in the name of his most Christian majesty. The proposition of receiving a minister accredited by any other authority or power in France, would be a new question, which, whenever it occurred, the king would have the right to decide according to the interests of his subjects, his own dignity, and the regard which he owes to his allies, and to the general system of Europe. I am therefore to inform you, Sir, in expreſs and formal terms, that I acknowledge you in no other public character than that of minister from his most Christian majesty; and that consequently you cannot be admitted to treat with the king's ministers, in the quality, and under the form, stated in your note.

"But observing that you have entered into explanations of some of the circumstances which have given to England such strong grounds of uneasineſs and jealousy, and that you speak of these explanations as being of a nature to bring our two countries nearer, I have been unwilling to convey to you the notification stated above, without, at the same time, explaining myself clearly and distinctly on the subject of what you have communicated to me, though under a form which is neither regular nor official.

"Your explanations are confined to three points.

"The first is that of the decree of the National Convention of the 19th of November, in the expreſsions of which all England saw the formal declaration of a design to extend universally the new principles of government adopted in France; and to encourage disorder and revolt in all countries, even in those

which are neutral. If this interpretation which you represeta as injurious to the Convention, could admit of any doubt, it is but too well justified by the conduct of the Convention itself And the application of these principles to the king's dominions has been ſhown unequivocally, by the public reception given to the promoters of ſedition in this country, and by the ſpeeches made to them preciſely at the time of this decree, and ſince, on ſeveral different occaſions.

"Yet, notwithſtanding all theſe proofs, ſupported by other circumſtances which are but too notorious, it would have been with pleaſure that we ſhould have ſeen here ſuch explanations, and ſuch a conduct, as would have ſatisfied the dignity and honour of England, with reſpect to what has already paſſed, and would have offered a ſufficient ſecurity in future for the maintenance of that reſpect towards the rights, the government, and the tranquillity of neutral powers, which they have on every account a right to expect.

"Neither this ſatisfaction, nor this ſecurity, is found in the terms of an explanation, which ſtill declares to the promoters of ſedition in every country, what are the caſes in which they may count beforehand on the ſupport and ſuccour of France; and which reſerves to that country the right of mixing herſelf in our internal affairs, whenever ſhe ſhall judge it proper; and on principles incompatible with the political inſtitutions of all the countries of Europe. No one can avoid perceiving how much a declaration like this is calculated to encourage diſorder and revolt in every country. No one can be ignorant how contrary it is to the reſpect which is reciprocally due from independent nations; nor how repugnant to thoſe principles which the king has followed, on his part, by abſtaining at all times from any interference whatever with the internal affairs of France. And this contraſt is alone ſufficient to ſhew, not only that England cannot conſider ſuch an explanation as ſatisfactory, but that ſhe muſt look upon it as a freſh avowal of thoſe diſpoſitions which ſhe ſees with ſo juſt an uneaſineſs and jealouſy.

"I proceed to the two other points of your explanation, which concern the general diſpoſition of France with regard to the allies of Great Britain, and the conduct of the Convention and its officers relative to the Scheldt. The declaration which you there make, "that France will not attack Holland as long as that power ſhall obſerve an exact neutrality," is conceived nearly in the ſame terms with that which you was charged to make in the name of his moſt Chriſtian majeſty in

the month of June last. Since that first declaration was made, an officer, stating himself to be employed in the service of France, has openly violated both the territory and neutrality of the republic, in going up to Scheldt to attack the citadel of Antwerp, notwithstanding the determination of the government not to grant this paſsage, and the formal protest by which they opposed it. Since the same declaration was made, the Convention has thought itself authorised to annul the rights of the republic, exercised within the limits of its own territory, and enjoyed by virtue of the same treaties by which her independence is secured. And at the very moment, when, under the name of an amicable explanation, you renew to me in the same terms the promise of respecting the independence and the rights of England and her allies, you announce to me, that those in whose name you speak, intend to maintain these open and injurious aggreſsions.

" It is not certainly on such a declaration as this, that any reliance can be placed for the continuance of public tranquillity.

" But I am unwilling to leave without a more particular reply, what you say on the subject of the Sheldt. If it were true that this question is in itself of little importance, this would only serve to prove more clearly, that it was brought forward only for the purpose of insulting the allies of England by the infraction of their neutrality, and by the violation of their rights, which the faith of treaties obliges us to maintain. But you cannot be ignorant, that here the utmost importance is attached to those principles which France wiſhes to establiſh by this proceeding, and to those consequences which would naturally result from them; and that not only those principles, and those consequences, will never be admitted by England, but that ſhe is, and ever will be, ready to oppose them with all her force.

" France can have no right to annul the stipulations relative to the Scheldt, unleſs ſhe have also the right to set aside equally all the other treaties between all the powers of Europe, and all the other rights of England, or of her allies. She can have no pretence to interfere in the question of opening of the Scheldt, unleſs ſhe were the sovereign of the Low Countries, or had the right to dictate laws to all Europe.

" England never will consent that France ſhall arrogate the power of annulling at her pleasure, and under the pretence of a pretended natural right, of which ſhe makes herself the only judge, the political system of Europe, establiſhed by solemn trea-

ce, and guaranteed by the consent of all the powers. This government, adhering to the maxims which it has followed for more than a century, will also never see with indifference that France ſhall make herſelf, either directly or indirectly, ſovereign of the *low countries*, or general arbitreſs of the rights and liberties of Europe. If France is really deſirous of maintaining friendſhip and peace with England, ſhe muſt ſhew herſelf diſpoſed to renounce her views of aggreſſion and aggrandiſement, and to confine herſelf within her own territory, without inſulting other governments, without diſturbing their tranquillity, without violating their rights.

"With reſpect to that character of ill will which is endeavoured to be found in the conduct of England towards France, I cannot diſcuſs it, becauſe you ſpeak of it in general terms only, without alleging a ſingle fact. All Europe has ſeen the juſtice and the generoſity which have characteriſed the conduct of the king: his majeſty has always been deſirous of peace; he deſires it ſtill, but ſuch as may be real, and ſolid, and conſiſtent with the intereſts and dignity of his own dominions, and with the general ſecurity of Europe.

On the reſt of your paper I ſay nothing. As to what relates to me and to my colleagues, the king's miniſters owe to his majeſty the account of their conduct; and I have no anſwer to give to you on the ſubject, any more than on that of the appeal which you propoſe to make to the Engliſh nation. This nation, according to that conſtitution by which its liberty and proſperity are ſecured, and which it will always be able to defend againſt every attack, direct or indirect, will never have, with foreign powers connection or correſpondence, except through the organ of its king; of a king whom it loves and reveres, and who has never for an inſtant ſeparated his rights, his intereſts, and his happineſs, from the rights, the intereſt, and the happineſs of his people. GRENVILLE."

IRISH PARLIAMENT.

On Wedneſday Jan. 9. the Iriſh parliament met, and was opened with a ſpeech from the lord lieutenant, requeſting their concurrence for an augmentation of forces. The ſubject was unanimouſly agreed to come under immediate conſideration; and an addreſs was moved to be preſented to his majeſty on the occaſion.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6. 1793.

FOREIGN.

France.—Trial of the king.

THIS momentous trial we must state with as much brevity as is consistent with that distinctneſs which its importance merits.

Monday, Jan. 14. The Proceſs Verbal and the preliminary buſineſs being dispatched, the Convention, about twelve o'clock, paſsed to the order of the day.

After a long and very warm debate on the main subject, it was determined that they ſhould proceed to the Appeal Nominal on the three following questions:

I. Is Louis Capet guilty of high treason?

II. If the judgement, whatever it might be, was to be submitted to the people?

III. What puniſhment was to be inflicted on him?

Tuesday, Jan. 15. The Convention proceeded to the vote on the first question.

The mode of voting was by each member, called upon in alphabetical order of the Departments, mounting the Tribune, and declaring his opinion, "*Yes*, or *No*." Some prefaced it with a ſhort speech, aſsigning their reasons.

The result of this Appeal Nominal was, that Louis was pronounced by an immense majority, "GUILTY OF CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE LIBERTY OF THE NATION, AND HIGH TREASON AGAINST THE STATE."

Out of seven hundred and forty-five, whose names were called over, six hundred and ninety-three voted for the affirmative; twenty-five were not present; and twenty-six confined themselves to some observations on the case. Of those who did vote, several observed that they gave their opinions as legislators and not as judges.

A great part of the Aſsembly iſsued a murmur of indignation at seeing M. Egalité, heretofore duke of Orleans, ascend the Tribune, and declare himself in the affirmative; instead of either absenting himself from the Convention, or declining to vote, on account of his affinity to the prisoner.

Between five and six o'clock they proceeded to the Appeal Nominal on the second question; which terminated in a manner extremely different from what was the general expectation in Paris.

The deputies in general delivered their opinions with becoming gravity, some of them prefacing their vote, as before, with a ſhort introductory ſpeech; but the violence and party rage of others, gave an occaſional interruption to the ſolemnity of the proceedings.

M. Egalité again ſhewed his diſregard of all decorum, by aſcending the Tribune, and declaring againſt the Appeal, with as much indifference as he pronounced on the guilt of Louis.

It was not till midnight that the Appeal Nominal was over Of the deputies preſent, the number were,

Againſt the Appeal to the People - - - 426
For it - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 283

The preſident, in conſequence, pronounced the Decree of the Convention, "*That there ſhould be no Appeal to the people.*"

Of the members who did not vote, thirty were abſent on commiſſions, ten made excuſes, three were ſick, and three abſent without cauſe aſſigned.

Wednesday, Jan. 16. At one o'clock the Convention proceeded to the Appeal Nominal on the third queſtion, which occupied their attention the whole of that day.

The Appeal Nominal on the queſtion, "*What puniſhment ought to be inflicted on Louis Capet?*" continued without interміſſion through the whole of the preceding night, each member aſſigning reaſons for his opinion. The moſt remarkable were as follow;

Garran de Coulon—"I am of opinion, that we cannot exercise, at the ſame time, the functions of Accuſers, Judges, and Jury. The people did not delegate to us the right of pronouncing without their ratification. I conſider that to be tyranny, when men place themſelves above that ever ſacred law, the ſovereignty of people. I reſpect the opinions of thoſe who entertain ſentiments different from mine, but I cannot adopt them."

J. B. Lacaste, du Cantal.—"The tyrant, while alive, is like a light houſe to our internal and external enemies—when dead, he will be a terror to the combined kings, and to their ſatellites. His ghoſt will diſconcert the projects of traitors, put an end to faction and diſturbance, give peace to the republic,

and at length destroy those prejudices which have too long disturbed mankind. The tyrant has been declared guilty of the greatest of crimes,—of attempting to enslave the nation. The law pronounces death against such an attempt. Submiſsive to the law, I vote for death."

ROBERSPIERRE—"Because you have eſtabliſhed yourselves the judges of Louis, without the usual forms, are you leſs his judges? you cannot separate your quality of judge from that of legislator. These two qualities are indivisible. You have acknowledged the crimes of the tyrant;—it is your duty to puniſh them. No consideration ſhould make you hesitate respecting the puniſhment reserved for the greatest criminal that ever existed. I vote for the puniſhment of death."

DANTON—"I am not one of those statesmen who know not how to determine but from political considerations; I am a republican; and do not hesitate respecting the choice of that puniſhment reserved for Louis the last. You ought to strike a terror into tyrants by an inflexibility of character. I vote for the puniſhment of death."

ROBERT—"I vote for death; and if any regret remains to me, it is, that my competence does not extend to all tyrants. I would condemn them all to death."

BARRERE—"The tree of liberty does not flouriſh, unleſs moistened with the blood of kings. I vote for death."

EGALITE—"Those who have made, or may make attempts against the sovereignty of the people, deserve death. I vote for death."

LILLERY—"My constituents have not delegated to me the absurd power of being both accuser and judge. I cannot therefore in this cause exercise the functions of both these characters. Besides, I am convinced that the restoration of royalty will become impoſsible if you preserve the life of Louis. His son cannot become dangerous while educated under the ignominy of his father. We are continually told of a powerful faction; a faction who aspire at tyranny. Let that faction be ſhewn to us, and we will combat them with courage. I vote for the confinement of Louis.

CONDORCET—"I declare that no circumstance except the present could induce me to pronounce sentence of death against any one. I request that the severest puniſhment next to death, may be inflicted on Louis; but in case death ſhall be pronounced against him, I request that the political consideration presented by Mahle, *viz.* 'Whether the puniſhment ought to be accelerated or retarded?' may be discuſsed."

Barbaroux—"I vote for the death of the tyrant. In a few moments I ſhall vote for the expulsion of his family." [This has not yet happened.]

Salle—"Nothing at present remains to us but to choose the evils of our country. Louis luckily leaves, of all his relations, that one who is most calculated to inſpire us with diſgust for royalty.

Thomas Paine—"I vote for the proviſional confinement of Louis, and for his expulſion after the war."

Briſſot—"It would have been deſirable that the puniſhment to be inflicted on Louis ſhould have been pronounced by the whole nation. It would have been the beſt method of carrying along with us the ſentiments of the neighbouring nations, and of defeating the projects of the tyrants of Europe, who deſire the puniſhment of Louis, in order more ſucceſsfully to excite indignation and hatred againſt the National Convention. But as the Aſſembly have thought proper to reject the appeal to the people, I am now of opinion, that the only way of avoiding the dangers which threaten us, is to pronounce the puniſhment of death againſt Louis, and defer its execution to the moment when the people ſhall have ſanctioned the conſtitution which we ſhall preſent them. I know that, in ſome ſenſe, the opinion which I deliver may be calumniated; I have only to offer, in reply to my enemies, my honourable poverty. The moment perhaps is not diſtant, when I ſhall bequeath it to my children; but while I live, I will exert myſelf with all my power for the maintenance of order, without which, a republic can only be a combination of ruffians. I declare as a man who has profound knowledge of our ſucceſs, of our reſources, and of thoſe of the powers who threaten us, that we have nothing to fear from kings, and their ſatellites; and, I add, that if we do not deſtroy that ſyſtem of diſorganization, which has raiſed its audacious head, the republic is loſt."

The Appeal Nominal was terminated at ſix o'clock; then Salles, the ſecretary, preſented himſelf at the Tribune to read letters. Several members demanded what thoſe letters were? The preſident ſaid the firſt was from the defenders of Louis Capet; and the ſecond from the miniſter of foreign affairs; to which was ſubjoined one from the Spaniſh ambaſſador.

The Aſſemby cloſed the diſcuſſion by paſſing to the order of the day on the letter of the envoy of Spain.

Robespierre oppoſed the admiſſion of the defenders of the accuſed. The Aſſembly decreed that they ſhould be admitted after the reſult of the Appeal Nominal ſhould be proclaimed.

GARAND demanded of the Aſsembly to decide what ſhould be the nature of the ſuffrages of thoſe who had voted for death with reſtrictions? He thought that their opinion for death ought to be reckoned a formal opinion, reſerving for a further diſcuſsion on the proposed reſtrictions.

The opinion was adopted.

Before the reſult of the ſcrutiny could be proclaimed, a deputy who had been abſent from indiſpoſition, demanded to give his opinion. This demand excited ſome noiſe. A member ſaid, in a low tone, that the majority had only one voice. At that moment, Manuel, the ſecretary, was preparing to depart. A great number of members called out, that he ought to be arreſted——that he was ſuſpected of having wiſhed to deceive the Aſsembly on the reſult of the Appeal Nominal.

Tranquillity was at length reſtored in the Aſsembly. The tumult had been ſo great a few minutes before, as to force the preſident to put on his hat. The deputy who had been indiſpoſed, voted for detention and baniſhment.

The preſident announced, that he was going to proclaim the reſult of the Appeal Nominal. The moſt profound ſilence prevailed for ſeveral minutes. He ſaid,

"The Aſsembly is compoſed of 745 members——one of theſe is dead, ſix indiſpoſed, two abſent without cauſe, and cenſured in the minutes conformable to the decree, eleven abſent upon commiſsions, and four who do not vote, making, in all, twenty-three members, who have given no opinion. The number of votes is thus reduced to 721. In order that there may be a majority, it is neceſsary that there ſhould be an union of 361 ſuffrages. Twenty-one members have voted for death, with the demand of a diſcuſsion on the period of his execution; one has voted for death, with the reſerve of its commutation or delay; two for death, not to be carried into execution till peace, unleſs in the caſe of invaſion of the French territory, in which inſtance, to be inflicted within twenty-four hours after ſuch invaſion has taken place; two for chains; 319 for impriſonment and baniſhment; 366 for death!"

The preſident then, lowering the tone of his voice, amidſt the moſt profound and awful ſilence, proceeded to pronounce the following *ſentence*:

"I declare, then, in the name of the Convention, that the puniſhment which it pronounces againſt Louis Capet is——DEATH!"

The three defenders of Louis Capet were then admitted to the bar. One of them, Deseze, said,

" Citizens, representatives, the law and the decrees have entrusted to us the sacred function of the defence of Louis. We come, with regret, to present to you the last act of our function. Louis has given to us his expreſs charge to read to you a letter signed with his own hand, of which the following is a copy :

Letter from Louis.

" I owe to my honour, I owe to my family, not to subscribe to a sentence which declares me guilty of a crime with which I cannot accuse myself. In consequence, I appeal to the nation from the sentence of its representatives ; and I commit, by these presents, to the fidelity of my defenders, to make known to the National Convention this appeal by all the means in their power, and to demand that mention of it be made in the minutes of their sittings.

Given at Paris, Jan. 16. 1793. (Signed) Louis."

Deseze then resumed the discourse. He reminded the Aſsembly, that the decree of death had only been pronounced by a majority of five voices, while the other part of the aſsembly were of opinion, that the safety of the country required another decision. He warmly conjured them to examine anew the question of appeal, and to grant to humanity, to the interest of the state, all that justice might not seem imperiously to claim.

Tronchet, another of the defenders of Louis Capet, protested against the decree, by which the Aſsembly had declared that the sentence ſhould be paſsed, like its other decrees, by an absolute majority. He demanded the repeal of the decree, observing that as the penal code had served as the basis of the opinion of those who had pronounced the puniſhment of death, the Aſsembly ought, conformably to that code, not to pronounce the puniſhment except by two-thirds of the voices.

Lamaignon-Malesherbes, the third counsel of Louis, begged the Convention to allow him till to-morrow to present some observations on that kind of majority, which to him seemed neceſsary, before sentence ſhould have been pronounced. He regretted that he could not speak extempore with sufficient facility to enable him to explain his ideas.

The president informed the counsel, that the Convention would take their requests into consideration, and invited them to the honours of the sitting.

On a motion made by Roberspierre, the Convention decreed,

I. That the appeal interposed by Louis Capet is null, being contrary to the rights of the people, and to the power of national representation; and that all citizens are forbidden to support this appeal under pain of being punished as disturbers of public tranquillity.

II. That there are no grounds for attending to the remonstrances of the counsel of Louis, in regard to the nature of the majority which passed sentence upon him.

The discussion of the question, whether it would be proper to suspend the execution of the sentence passed against Louis Capet, was adjourned to next day.

The Convention rose at eleven at night, after a sitting which continued thirty-six hours.

Saturday, Jan. 19. M. Choudieu called for the order of the day, and it was decreed, that the assembly should not separate till this question was decided, *viz.*— Shall the execution of the sentence against Louis XVI. be suspended, or not, till the 15th of February next? But after some debates, it was put in this manner:——Shall there be a suspension or not?

It was determined, after some debate, to proceed to the Appeal Nominal, on the question, Whether there was to be a respite or not to the execution of Louis? The members were permitted simply to say, Yes, or No.

The Appeal Nominal lasted till two o'clock in the morning. Of 748 members, only 690 voted. Of this number 380 were against the respite, and 310 for it. It was therefore rejected by a majority of seventy.

The president, on the numbers being declared, pronounced the decree:

"That no delay could take place, there being a majority of thirty-eight voices for the execution of the sentence, at the expiration of twenty-four hours."

After which a melancholy silence prevailed for some time in the assembly.

Cambaceres afterwards made the following propositions, which were decreed by the Assembly.

"The decree which dooms Louis, the last king of the French, to death, shall be instantly sent to the executive council, who are charged with the notification of it in the course of the day to Louis, and with the execution of it within twenty-four hours after the notification.

" The council will take, for the execution of the decree, all the measures of general safety that may appear neceſsary; and for this act of national justice being accompanied with all due solemnity, it is injoined to the municipality of Paris, to suffer Louis to communicate with his family, and to have such ministers of religion as he may think proper to communicate with in his last moments.

Jan. 20. The minister of justice informed the Convention, " That the executive council had been summoned, and aſsembled early this morning, for the execution of the decree relative to Louis Capet, of which two copies had been transmitted to the hotel of the minister of justice. The council had called to its aſsistance the department, the mayor, the commandant general, and public accuser of the public tribunal. After having concerted, along with these, the measure of execution, the minister of justice, president of the the executive council, a member of council, the secretary, and two members of the department, went together to the temple."

At two o'clock they were brought to Louis, to whom the minister of justice, president of the executive council, said, " Louis, the executive council has been charged to notify to you, the extract of the minutes of the National Convention, dated the 15th, 17th, and 19th of this month, which the secretary will now read to you."——The secretary of the executive council proceeded to read these three extracts.

Louis answered by reading a written paper signed with his own hand. After having heard this paper, " I answered, (continued the minister of justice,) that we ſhould deliberate on the object of his demands. We retired; and as we were of opinion that we could not decide alone on the conduct proper to be adopted, we returned to the council, which decreed, that we ſhould submit to you the writing delivered by Louis to the deputation, of which I ſhall now read you a copy.

The last requests of Louis.

" I demand a delay of three days, in order to make the neceſsary preparations to appear in the presence of God.—— I demand for that purpose to send for and to see freely the person whom I ſhall mention;——the person whom I demand is M. Eschevaux de Fermont,—he lodges at No. 483, Rue de Bacq.

" I demand that his person be secured from all disturbance, from all apprehension, on account of the last offices of charity which he ſhall render me.

" I demand to be freed from that perpetual inspection, which the Council General has eſtabliſhed over me for some months.

" I demand in this interval, to be able to see my family as often as I ſhall request, and without witneſs.

" I would request, that the National Convention would immediately proceed to deliberate on the fate of my family, and permit them to retire freely, wherever it may think proper.

" I recommend to the nation all the persons who were attached to me. There are many of them who have expended all their fortunes to purchase places under the new government, and who, having now lost their sole dependance, must be in circumstances of want. Among my pensioners were many aged and indigent persons, who had no other means of support except the pension which I gave them.

Done at the Temple, Jan. 20. 1793. (Signed) Louis."

These demands were all rejected.

Proclamation of the Provisional Executive Council.

Jan. 20. *Second year of the Republic.*

The Provisional Executive Council, deliberating on the measures to be taken for the execution of the decree of the National Convention of the 15th, 17th, 19th, and 20th of January 1793, enacted the following regulations:

I. The execution of the sentence of Louis Capet ſhall take place to-morrow.

II. The place of execution ſhall be La Place de Revolution, ci-devant Louis xv. between the pedestal and the Champs-Elisces.

III. Louis Capet ſhall set out from the Temple at eight o'clock in the morning, so that the execution ſhall take place at noon.

IV. The Commiſsioners of the Department of Paris, the Commiſsioners of the Municipality, and Members of the Criminal Tribunal, ſhall aſsist at the execution. The Secretary Register of the Tribunal ſhall draw up the minutes, and the said Commiſsioners and Members of the Tribunal, as soon as the execution is over, ſhall come to give an account to the Com-

cil, who ſhall continue in a ſtate of permanent ſitting during the whole day.

By the Provisional Executive Council,
ROLLAND, CLAVIER, MONGE,
LE BRUN, GARAT, PACHE.

EXECUTION OF LOUIS THE SIXTEENTH.

Report made to the Commons of Paris of particulars attending the Execution of Louis XVI.

The proclamation of the Provisional Executive Council relative to his execution, had hardly been notified to Louis, before he requeſted permiſſion to confer with his family. The Commiſſioners teſtifying their embarraſſment at this requeſt, propoſed to him that his family ſhould be brought into his apartment, to which he agreed. His wife, his children, and his ſiſter accordingly came and conferred together in the room in which he was accuſtomed to dine. This interview laſted two hours and a half; their converſation was very earneſt. After his family had retired, Louis told the Commiſſioners, that he had been obliged to uſe ſtrong language to his wife.

His family had aſked, whether they might not ſee him again in the morning. To this he made no anſwer, and madame Elizabeth ſaw him no more. Louis cried out in his chamber "Oh, the murderers! the murderers!" Addreſſing herſelf to the ſon, Marie Antoinette ſaid, "Learn by the misfortunes of your father not to avenge his death."

The morning of his execution, Louis aſked for ſciſſars to cut his hair, they were refuſed him.

When they took away his knife, he exclaimed, "Do they think me baſe enough to deſtroy myſelf?"

The Commandant General and the Commiſſioners of the Commune aſcended, at half paſt eight o'clock in the morning, to the apartment of Louis, and ſignified to him the order which they had received, to conduct him to the place of execution.——Louis required three minutes with his confeſſor, which were readily granted. Immediately after, Louis preſented a packet to one af the Commiſſioners, with an entreaty to convey it to the Council General of the Commune.

Jacques Roux, the citizen to whom Louis addreſſed himſelf, anſwered, that he could not take charge of it, becauſe his miſſion was only to conduct him to execution; but he engaged one of his colleagues, who was on duty in the Temple, to do what Louis deſired; with which he was ſatisfied.

Louis then told the Commandant General, that he was ready; and in going out of his apartment, he begged the Municipal Officers to recommend to the Commune, the persons who had been in his service; and to beg, that he would give his valet de chambre Clery, a situation under the queen—correcting himself, he said, "under my wife." They answered Louis, that an account would be given of what he required to the Commune.

Louis croſsed on foot the first court; in the second he mounted into a carriage, in which were his Confeſsor and two Officers of the Gensdarmerie. The Executioner awaited him at the Place de la Revolution. The whole train moved along the Boulevards to the place of execution, where Louis arrived at ten minutes after ten o'clock. He undreſsed himself, mounted the scaffold with firmneſs and courage, and ſhewed an inclination to harangue the people; but the Executioner of Criminal Justice, by the order of General Santere, and by sound of drum, gave him notice that he was only to receive his sentence.

The head of Louis was then struck off; and being exhibited, a thousand cries were heard of *Vive la Nation, Vive la Republique Françoise!* Some volunteers dipt their pikes, others their handkerchiefs, in the blood of the tyrant. The body was immediately conveyed to the Church de la Magdelaine, where it was buried among the persons who periſhed on the day of his marriage, and the Swiſs who were maſsacred on the 10th of August. The grave in which the body was deposited, was fourteen feet deep, and seven in width.

Further particulars.

His majesty wore a great coat, of the faſhion of those which are commonly worn without other coats by the Freneh, of a dark colour, black silk breeches and stockings, altogether neat, and his hair was dreſsed.

Every account states, that he advanced towards the awful apparatus with a calmneſs which astoniſhed every one.——He looked round upon the multitude, as if desirous to addreſs them.

When he prepared to speak, all was for a moment silent; the military music stopped, till ordered again to proceed by the savage directors of the sacrifice, and the voice of the dying king was drowned in clamour: However, he was heard distinctly to pronounce, "I die innocent——I forgive.——"

The king is said to have declared with his last breath to those immediately about him, that he sincerely accepted the Constitution.

After the execution his mortal part was carried to the burying ground of La Magdelaine. To accelerate the diſsolution of his body, lime was thrown into his grave. Guards were placed to prevent his being taken away in the night.

Louis was born the 23d of August 1754. He began his reign on the 10th of May 1774; was driven from the Thuilleries the 10th of August 1792; thrown into prison the 14th, and dethroned the 22d of September following. He has reigned eighteen years and three months.

Considering that he was pronounced inviolable by the Constitution, and that no puniſhment could be inflicted upon him, but forfeiture of his crown——considering that he was not tried according to the determined forms of the criminal code ——considering that a part of the adduced evidence, such as it was, was with-held——considering that the offices of judge and jury cannot be united; and that the appeal to the people, whose sovereignty was pronounced the sole authority by which monarchy had been aboliſhed, and the monarch brought to judgement, was set aside——we can but conclusively consider that Louis the XVI. has died a martyr,—and be his blood upon the heads of his murderers!

Letter from M. Aursdeneste, respecting the condemnation of Louis XVI.

The following letter was sent to all the Paris Journals on the day of the condemnation of the deceased monarch, and inserted in the greater part of them.

" To all the Journalists.

" Penetrated with horror, I declare as a simple French citizen, that, according to my opinion, the sentence of the National Convention, which condemns to death the *ci-devant* king, Louis XVI *is both infamous and iniquitous.* I conceive that the public will is sufficient to absolve me from the oath which attached me to our constitution; but a retroactive effect, contrary to my oaths, can be no other than a perjury. I protest against the impunity of the maſsacres committed in the month of September.

" This is what my conscience impoſes on me as a duty to publiſh; 'tis what I wiſh to transmit to my contemporaries, and from generation to generation, to the latest posterity.

Paris, Thursday night, FRANCOIS AURSDENESTE.
Jan. 17. 1793. (Of the Island of Rhe.)

Last Will and Testament of Louis, as found in the Temple, and delivered by the Commiſsioners to the Commune of Paris.

In the name of the Holy Trinity, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; this day, the 21st day of December 1792, I Louis XVI. of that name, king of France, having been for more than four months ſhut up with my family in the Tower of the Temple at Paris, by those who were my subjects, and deprived of every kind of communication with my family since the 11th of this month; and being moreover involved in a trial, of which, from the paſsions of mankind, it is impoſsible to foreſee the event, and for which neither pretext nor precedent can be found in any existing law; having no witneſs of my thoughts but God, and no one but him to whom I can addreſs myself, I here declare, in his preſence, my last will and sentiments.

I leave my soul to God, my Creator; I implore him to receive it in his mercy, and not to judge it according to its merits, but according to those of our Lord Jesus Christ, who offered himself as a sacrifice to God, his Father, for us men, unworthy as we were, and especially myself. I die in the Communion of our Catholic, Apostolic, and Roman Mother Church, which holds its powers by an uninterrupted succeſsion from St Peter, to whom Jesus Christ had entrusted them. I firmly believe, and I confeſs, all that is contained in the commandments of God and the church—in the sacraments and mysteries which the church teaches, and has always taught. I have never presumed to make myself a judge as to the different manners of explaining the doctrines which divide the church of Jesus Christ; but I have always referred myself, and ſhall always refer myself, if God ſhall grant me life, to the decisions which the superior ecclesiastics united to the holy catholic church give, and ſhall give, conformably to the discipline of the church, followed since Jesus Christ.

I lament with my whole heart our brethern who may be in error; but I do not presume to judge them: and I do not the leſs love them all in Jesus Christ, agreeably to what Christian charity teaches us.

I implore God to pardon me all my sins. I have endeavoured scrupulously to know them, to detest them, and to humble myself in his preſence.

Not having it in my power to avail myself of the ministry of a Catholic priest, I implore God to receive the confeſsion which I have made to him; and, above all, my profound repentance for having put my name (although it was contrary

to my will) to those acts which may be contrary to the discipline, and the belief of the Catholic church, to which I have always remained sincerely united in my heart. I implore God to receive the firm resolution I entertain, ſhould he grant me life, to avail myself, as soon as it ſhall be in my power, of the ministry of a Catholic priest, to accuse myself of all my sins, and to receive the sacrament of penitence.

I beseech all those whom by inadvertence I may have offended (for I do not recollect ever knowingly to have committed an offence against any one,) or those to whom I may have given a bad example, or occasion for scandal, to pardon me the evil which they think I may have done them.

I beseech all those who have charity, to unite their prayers to my own, to obtain from God the pardon of my sins.

I pardon, with my whole heart, those who have made themselves my enemies, without my having given them any cause; and I pray to God, that he will pardon them, as well as those who, by a false zeal, or by a zeal ill understood, have done me much evil.

I recommend to God, my wife, my children, my sister, my aunts, my brothers, and all those who are attached to me by the tie of blood, or in any other manner whatsoever.

I especially implore God to cast the eyes of his mercy upon my wife, my children, and my sister, who have for so long a time suffered with me,—to support them by his grace, ſhould they happen to lose me, so long as they ſhall remain in this periſhable world.

I recommend my children to my wife; I have never doubted of her maternal tenderneſs for them. I recommend to her to make them good Christians, and honest; to induce them to consider the grandeurs of this world (ſhould they be condemned to make trial of them) as no other than dangerous and periſhable poſſeſſions; and to turn their view to the only solid and durable glory of eternity.

I beseech my sister to be pleased to continue her tenderneſs to my children, and to supply to them the place of mother, ſhould they have the misfortune to lose their own.

I beseech my wife to forgive me all those evils which ſhe suffers for me, and the uneaſineſses which I may have given her in the course of our union; as ſhe may be aſsured, that I retain nothing in my mind respecting her, ſhould ſhe imagine that ſhe has any reason to reproach herſelf with respect to me.

I earnestly recommend to my children, after what they owe to God, which they ought to consider as prior to every thing else, to remain always united among themselves, submiſsive and obedient to their mother, and grateful to her for all the pains ſhe takes for them, and in memory of me.

I beseech them to consider my sister as a second mother. I recommend to my son, ſhould he have the misfortune to become a king, to reflect that he owes himself entirely to the happineſs of his fellow-citizens; that he ought to forget all hatred and resentment, and especially all which has a reference to the misfortune and miseries which I experience; that he cannot effect the happineſs of his people, but by reigning according to the laws; but that, at the same time, a king cannot make those respected, or do the good which is in his heart, unleſs he poſſeſs the neceſsary authority; and that otherwise, being confined in his operations, and commanding no respect, he is more hurtful than useful.

I recommend to my son to take care of all those persons who have been attached to me, as far as the circumstances in which he may find himself ſhall give him an opportunity; to reflect that this is a sacred debt which I have contracted towards the children or relations of those who have periſhed for my sake, and towards those who have become miserable on my account.

I know there are several persons in the number of those who were attached to me, who have not behaved towards me as they ought to have done, and who have even ſhewn ingratitude towards me; but I forgive them (for, in the moments of trouble and effervescence, one is not always master of one's self,) and I beseech my son, ſhould he find an opportunity, to reflect only on their misfortunes. I wish I could here testify my thankfulneſs to those who have manifested towards me a true and disinterested attachment.—On the one hand, if I have been sensibly affected by the ingratitude and disloyalty of those to whom I have never acted but with kindneſs, as well to themselves as to their relations and friends; on the other, I have had the consolation to see the voluntary attachment and interest which many persons have ſhewn me. I beseech them to receive all my thanks for this. In the situation in which things yet are I ſhould fear to commit them, were I to speak more explicitly; but I especially recommend to my son, to seek opportunities of being able to acknowledge them.

I ſhould, however, conceive, that I calumniated the sentiments of the nation, were I not openly to recommend to my son M. M. de Chamilly and Hue, whose sincere attachment

to me has induced them to ſhut themselves up with me in this sorrowful abode, and who have been in danger of becoming the unhappy victims of that attachment. I also recommend to him Cleyr, with whose attention I have every reason to be satisfied since he has been with me, as he is the person who has remained with me to the end. I beseech *M. M. de la Commune* to deliver to him my effects, my books, my watch, and the other little articles of my property, which have been deposited with the *Conseil de Commune*.

I moreover fully pardon those who have guarded me, the ill treatments and hardneſs which they have thought it their duty to use towards me. I have found some feeling and compaſsionate souls; may these enjoy in their hearts that tranquility to which their mode of thinking ſhould entitle them!

I beseech M. M. de Maleſherbes,, Tronchet, and Deseze, to receive here my utmost thanks, and the expreſsion of my sensibility, for all the pains and trouble they have been at on my account.

I conclude by declaring, before God, and being ready to appear before him, that I do not reproach myself with any of those crimes which have been charged against me.

Duplicates of this instrument made at the Tower of the Temple, the 21*st* Dec. 1792. (signed) LOUIS.

(inscribed) Baudrais, Municipal officer.

The Commiſsioners of the Temple wrote to the President, that the widow and sister of *Louis Capet*, have testified several times an anxious desire to see the Citizen *Clery* (the valet of *Louis*.)

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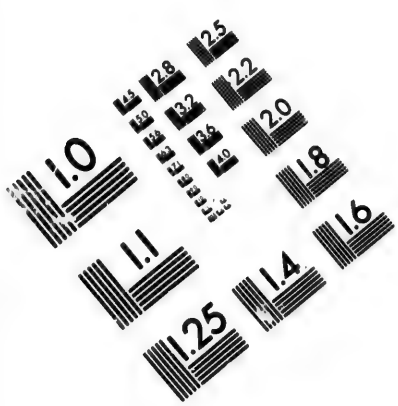

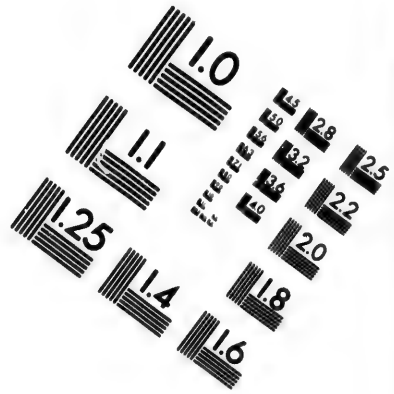

IMAGE EVALUATION
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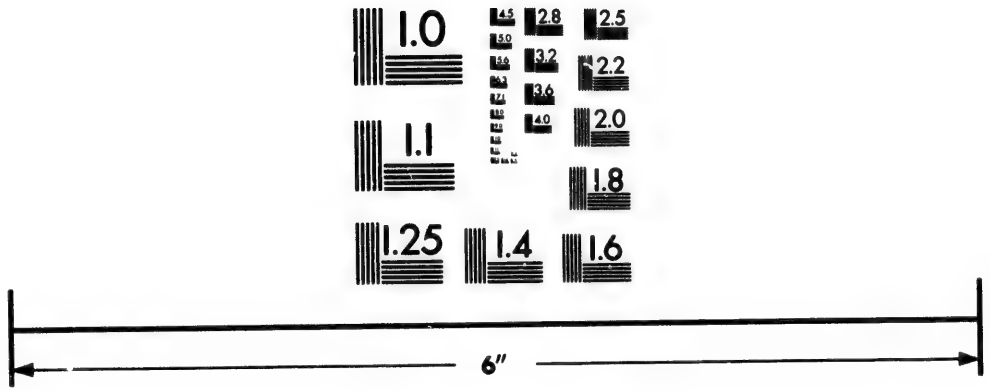

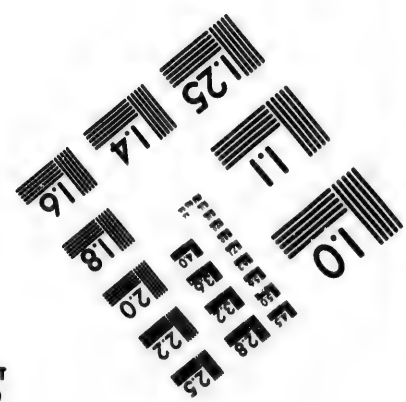

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Wednesday, March 6. 1793.

Foreign.

France.

THE commiſsioners of the Temple joined to their letter of Jan. 22. in our last chronicle p. xxviii. an extract from the registers of the Council of the Temple, dated the 21st, by which it appeared, that Clery had acknowledged receiving from Louis Capet, on the morning of the 21st, a ring on which were inscribed the letters M. A. A. A. 19th April 1770, which Louis had charged him to deliver to his wife, observing that it was with pain he separated from her; secondly, a silver watch seal, opening in three parts, which was to be given to his son; and thirdly, a small paper on which was written, *hair of my wife, my ſiſter, and my children*, with orders to give these articles to Marie Antoinette, and to aſk her pardon for not seeing her that morning; his motive for which, was to spare her the pain of so cruel a separation. The Council, after deliberating on the subject, left Clery in poſseſsion of the effects, with which he was entrusted, till orders ſhould be given by the Council General, to whom it would be referred.

[We have never heard that Clery had ever been permitted to comply with this last demand of his indulgent master.]

It was announced that seals had been put upon the apartments occupied in the Tower by Louis Capet.

Jan. 23. Mr Rolland, the minister of the home department who has long acted with his colleagues with reluctance, has at last resigned. By a letter addreſsed to the Convention by him, containing his resignation, it appeared, that while he was doing every thing in his power to promote good order, one of the Deputies had announced in a club, that another insurrection was absolutely neceſsary; and further, that he ſhould inform his agents, of the proper time for commencing it. It also appeared, that it had been mentioned in the same club, by some pretended Federists, that if only one more Patriot Deputy ſhould be aſsaſsinated, he ſhould be revenged by the death of every individual who voted for an appeal to the people on the judgement of the king.

Rolland justified his conduct in manly spirited terms. If it be the pleasure of the Assembly (says he) to transfer the administration of the interior immediately into other hands, I shall receive my prompt release with pleasure; if I am desired to wait till the appointment of a successor, I shall continue to do the duties of my office; but I shall not attend the council, or take any part in its consultations. To-morrow I shall cause copies of the report of my department to be distributed. Within three days I shall give in an account of the money that has passed through my hands since the first of August——I challenge all the severity of the Convention. I remain in Paris to answer every charge, and furnish every document that may be required of me.

M. Rolland's letter was ordered to be printed and sent to the Departments.——The Convention ordered the port feuille of the minister of the interior to be remitted to the minister of justice.

The administration of Britain having refused to treat with M. de Chauvelin, as minister from France, and he having been ordered to depart from Britain, left London on the 26th of January.

Two days afterwards M. Maret arrived in London, said to be invested with powers to treat with administration; but after having resided in London about a fortnight, without demanding an audience of any of the public ministers of his majesty, or opening his commission in any way, he was ordered to leave this country, and agreeably to that order, retired.

All friendly communication between Britain and France being thus suspended, vigorous preparations for war were immediately commenced in both countries. From the report of Brissot to the National Convention, on the 30th of January, the sentiments of France on this subject may be easily collected. The following are extracts from it.

"The court of England is for war. That hope, cherished by men who saw with horror war between two free nations, the hope of preserving peace, is no more. The hostile views of the Cabinet of London are now brought to light; a perfidious mask of neutrality had long veiled them. The king of Britain now declares war with you, because he thinks the time is come when he can display his forces safely, and with impunity against your liberty.

"He has declared war with you, by ordering your ambassador to leave England in eight days; he has declared it by giving public testimonies of grief for the fate of that conspirator whom you justly condemned to die; he has declared it

by demanding of the Parliament, on the news of that death, a considerable augmentation of forces by sea and land.

"To send away ignominiously the agent of the Republic, and to arm on receiving the news of the death of a traitor, is it not saying to Europe, to the universe, France has condemned Louis as a traitor, and I hold him to be innocent? I see in France none but rebels and regicides!——France for ever renounces kings and royalty, and I will avenge royalty and the king.

"Citizens, we must not conceal from you the dangers of this new war. You have to combat all the kings of Europe by sea and land; the people alone are our allies; but those people are nothing for you, for they are in chains, and these chains must first be broken.

"All your means are then in yourselves——your soil, your indsutry, and your courage, must supply the place of what nature and the circumstances refuse you.

"The trader, forgetting his commerce, must become a warrior; those who have capitals must employ their funds to support our aſsignats, and supply the want of money; the proprietor of land and labourer, renouncing all speculation, must furniſh the means of abundance during the operations of war; every citizen, like a Roman soldier, must march, not only with his arms, but with provisions for a given time; and thus you will defeat the calculations of your enemies with respect to the emptineſs of your magasine. The great family of Frenchmen must compose only one army, and all France must form only one camp, where nothing but war is talked of——where no object is pursued but war.——Above all, you must expect diſtreſs, and prepare yourselves for suffering every species of want; ſhortly indeed, it must be a crime for a citizen to have a change of clothing, if there is one of our brothers who is destitute of a covering.

"To declare that France is at war with England, is likewise to declare war against the Stadtholder of Holland. The Stadtholder, who is rather the subject than the ally of the Court of St James's, who has been, and still is, a paſsive instrument in their hands; who, in subservience to all their inclinations, has, in the course of the Revolution, favoured the Emigrants and Pruſsians, harraſsed the French, and treated with insolence the French Government. I here allude to the circumstance of releasing the persons guilty of forging aſsignats, arrested in Holland. The Stadtholder arms, in the mean time, to support the war of the Court of London, joins his ſhips to the Engliſh

fleet, favours our enemies, by putting obstacles in the way of our exportation of grain.

"After all these considerations, your Committee of General Defence has charged me to present to you the plan of the following decree."

The decree is too long for insertion here; but after enumerating, in exaggerated terms, as is usual in manifestoes of this nature, all the transactions that they have construed into acts of hostility, they proceed to decree,

'Article I. The National Convention declares, in the name of the French nation, that, considering the multiplied acts of hostility and aggression of the above mentioned nations, *The French nation is at war with the king of England, and the Stadtholder of the United Provinces.*

'II. The National Convention charges the Provisional Executive Council to call forth such forces as may appear to them necessary for repelling their aggression, and for maintaining the independence, the dignity, and the interests of the French Republic.

'III. The National Convention authorises the Provisional Executive Council to dispose of the naval forces of the Republic in such a manner as the interests of the state may appear to them to require; and it revokes all particular dispositions ordered in this respect by preceding decrees.'

Faure Eglantine moved, that an address to the English people might be drawn up, to inform them of the real motives which have brought on the war between the two countries; and that the Convention would decree that all English and Dutch merchants, and other individuals, who may be travelling in France on business, shall have every protection, provided they conform to the laws of the Republic. Both those propositions were decreed.

The first act, however, that was passed by the Executive Council, after this decree, was to seize on all the British, Dutch, and Russian vessels, that were then in the ports of France.

News of this having reached England on the 4th of February, orders were issued next day, forbidding all vessels from clearing out from any port in Britain to France, or any places subjected to their government.

It might have been expected, that the French would make a very vigorous push at the beginning to distress our commerce by fitting out a number of privateers to cruise against us; but it has so happened, that hitherto they have met with very little success; and that, upon the whole, since the commence-

ment of these predatory acts of hostility, there have been fully as many privateers, and other veſsels, captured from the French by our cruisers, as the French have captured from us; and among these last, there has been no veſsel of value.

The news of the death of the king of France, has been received in all foreign countries, with a sensation of horror. From a few places in France, addreſses have been sent to the National Convention approving of that deed. But reports from the army of the Pyrenees, state, that after receiving the news of that event, the desertions had become so frequent, that they were under great apprehensions of the consequences.

In the report of the war committee, it was stated, that of the 500,000 men decreed to be raised for the army, there were 300,000 wanting. This occasioned many ineffectual proposals to be made for raising these men; and some strong decrees were made for inforcing the levies; but upon more mature consideration, these decrees were next day rescinded.

General Custine still continues nearly inactive in Mentz. Some slight ſkirmiſhes have taken place between the Pruſsians and him, but nothing decisive has happened on either side.

Dumourier, with that activity which characterises him, having visited Bruſsels on his way to Antwerp, and exacted from the Belgians a sum of L. 250,000 has already taken the field, and entered the United Provinces, directing his route towards Breda. Two small forts of no moment have been taken. On entering Holland, he publiſhed a manifesto, inviting the people of Holland to join him as their truest and best friend, and to abandon the Stadtholder, who had abused and betrayed them. It is evident they have all along reckoned on the aſsistance of a powerful party in Holland to co-operate with them; nor was it without reason that they might have expected this; for it is well known that there has long existed in the United Provinces, a very powerful party, that are inimical to the office of Stadtholder; but by the latest advices from Holland, this party does not seem to be at present disposed to exert their influence in favour of the French. The treatment that the Belgians have suffered under the dominion of France has satisfied them, that it is safest to keep such friends at a distance; and all parties, it is said, are now eagerly preparing to oppose their progreſs. The country is already in part inundated, with a view to stop the progreſs of the French arms. It would not however be in the least surprising, that, considering the impetuosity of the French, and the ardour

of their leader; and the neceſsary slowneſs of the warlike motions of a political body, constituted as the United Provinces are, if the French ſhould meet with some ſucceſs at the commencement of hostilities.

Italy.

A fracas has happened at Rome, which has made a considerable noise. The French resident in that city, having been very active in propagating the new opinions of his nation, respecting liberty and equality, by instituting societies, and fomenting cabals in that city, had given great umbrage to the populace; and when he proceeded to take away the Arms of the king of France, from the door of his hotel, and erect in its stead, the Arms of the Republic, he met with some interruption from the mob. This induced him to go to court and demand an audience. Cardinal Zelada who received him, having communicated his demand to the Pope, which was urged in the most insolent manner, accompanied with a threat, that unleſs the people who had presumed to interrupt him, were immediately puniſhed, a body of 50,000 men were ready to vindicate his rights. But this meſsage having been received with more coolneſs than he expected, he retired in discontent, and with his suite paraded the streets in his coach, having his servants dreſsed in the National cockade, and waving as if in defiance, the red cap of equality from the windows. The mob became at last so outrageous, as to pelt him with stones, and drive him for protection into his banker's house, whither they pursued and overtook him; and in the violence of their phrenzy, put him to death;—the rest of his party fortunately escaped. The people having discovered a disposition strongly inimical to the French, and a tendency to meet in a tumultuous manner, it was with great difficulty that the Pope's guards were able to preserve the peace for some days afterwards; but quiet seems now to be restored to that capital. The name of the unfortunate person whose ill judged patriotism occasioned this disaster, so fatal to himself, was M. Baſseville. The National Convention, immediately on receiving news of that event, declared war against the Pope.

One of the most disastrous circumstances that has yet occurred to France, since the retreat of the duke of Brunswick, respects the squadron in the Mediterranean, under the commanded of M. Truguet, which had rode triumphant in those seas during the latter part of last summer. It is certain he meditated an attack upon the island of Sardinia; and one account says, he had actually made a descent there in the be-

ginning of December, but that he had been beat off with the loſs of 1500 men killed; that immediately upon the back of that defeat, he was overtaken with a violent ſtorm, on the fifth of December, in which his whole fleet, conſiſting of about twenty veſſels, was diſperſed, many of them ſunk, and others were ſeen diſmasted in great diſtreſs; but this news has never yet been confirmed, nor is it till the preſent hour known with any degree of certainty what has become of that ſquadron. That they did ſuffer by a ſtorm on the fifth of December, ſeems to be admitted on all hands; and this news is particularly confirmed by a letter from a ſhipmaſter now at Leghorn to his owners in Leith, who ſays he paſſed through the middle of the fleet on that day, in a ſtorm, and ſaw many of the veſſels in great diſtreſs, and that three of them went down while he was within view of them. What has become of the others is not yet known, ſome of them were ſaid to have come into the Bay of Naples, ſoon after in a very diſtreſſed condition; but neither has this report been confirmed. It was ſaid in the Gazette, that certain accounts had been received, that the flag ſhip, with Truguet on board, had ſunk; but ſince that time, there have been reports in the *French* papers that he had been ſeen elſewhere. In ſhort, nothing certain can as yet be gathered reſpecting this ſquadron, but that it did ſuffer by a ſtorm; nor does it ſeem to have entered into any European port, or it muſt have ſince been heard of.

Sweden.

Some popular commotions, (it is ſaid,) have taken place in Sweden, on an attempt being made to puniſh by law, a man of a popular character, who had publiſhed a book containing doctrines that were judged to be of a ſeditious tendency. It is certain that ever ſince the laſt revolution in Sweden, when the king made himſelf abſolute, there has been a ſtrong party lurking in the ſtate inimical to the royal family, who will be glad to embrace every opportunity that may occur to embroil the government with the *people*, who will in this caſe, as uſual, only become the tools of a party for effecting their own purpoſes.

Domestic.

Britain.

Since the meeting of Parliament, the hands of adminiſtration have been much ſtrengthened by the general concurrence of the nation, with the meaſures they have propoſed to adopt with reſpect to France; and by the acceſſion of many of the moſt powerful members of oppoſition. Still, however, Meſſ.

Fox, and Sheridan, and Grey, with a few others, in the lower house; and lords Lansdowne, Lauderdale, Stanhope, and Derby, in the House of Peers, make a spirited opposition, though few in number. Every vote, however, is easily carried in favour of administration; and never were such spirited efforts seen in this country without doors, for manning the navy; nor was it ever known that half the number of seamen were obtained, without impreſsing, in the same space of time, in any circumstances of the country. In *Scotland*, in particular, the loyalty of individuals has been displayed in a manner altogether unexampled in the annals of this country. A few months ago, many aſsociations were formed for the purpose of supporting the Constitution, and suppreſsing seditious writings, the members of which declared, that they were ready to support government on every proper occasion with their purse and persons. These were considered as words of course that had no meaning. But no sooner had France declared war against Britain, than innumerable bodies of men, freeholders, merchants, magistrates in their corporate or individual capacity, stepped forward, offering bounties upon bounties, to seamen who choose to enter to his majesty's service; so that, in some places, an able bodied seaman, when all these bounties are collected together, can obtain little ſhort of L. 20 of bounty money. This high encouragement, joined to the circumstance that no privateers are now fitting out in Britain, and connected with the expectation that the war cannot be of long duration, induces seamen to enter with a rapidity never before known in this country; so that all idea of impreſsing seamen here is at present totally suspended. Near two hundred men claimed the bounty money from the town of Edinburgh, during the last week only. During former wars scarce as many used to enter there during the course of the year. The seamen facetiously say, "This is the best mode of preſsing;" and the *report* of Briſsot to the National Convention, in which he recommends that every man who has two coats, ſhould give one of them to his neighbour, and that they ſhould kill all their dogs, and live two days of the week on potatoes and rice, has had great effect on the minds of our seamen, who say, they are determined to fight to the last, rather than be taken prisoners; because they are certain they ſhould be immediately stripped to afford clothes to the naked Frenchmen; and fed upon boiled frogs alone, or be starved for want of food.

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END OF VOLUME THIRTEENTH.

N.Y. S. 325-793

Errata.

P. 76 l. 5 from bottom, for *inum* read *mum*; p. 98 delete the whol sentence in the text; p. 99 under the word *analysis*, for 3½ read p. 124 l. 2 for *or* read *on*; p. 194 l. 3 for *before* read *of*; p. 199 for *corruption* read *conception*; p. 205 l. 1 for *Stadtboldman* read *Sta derian*; ib. l. 18 for *walks* read *works*; p. 322 delete the paſsage b ning with the word *and* l. 13 and ending with the word *chapel* l. 16.

*** *Two or three small paſsages of leſs importance than usual, have been dentally permitted to slip into this Volume to fill up a corner, unobser for which the Editor hopes his good natured readers will pardon him, as are but short.*

Directions to the Binder.

Portrait of William Tytler, esq. to face
View of Edinburgh
Erskine, a ram with four horns
American golden creeper
Genet
The table of exchanges to front
Place the chronicle before the index at the end
Place the contents after the title